CO-OPERATION
Between Wage Earner and Local Business Interests Brings Community Prosperity

THE LABOR NEWS

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE MAINE STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

Justice for the Worker
Constructive Cooperation
and
A Square Deal for the Employer

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WAGNER-CONNERY ACT DECLARED CONSTITUTIONAL BY FEDERAL TRIBUNAL

Judge Ripley Refused to Issue Injunction Sought by Three Corporations Restraining National Labor Board From Holding Hearings on Complaints of Unions.

Implies Act is Constitutional in Decision in Rochester, in Which Court Contends It Sets Up Administrative Machinery Which is Substantially the Same as Federal Trade Commiss[illegible] Act—Same Right Recognized in Railway Labor Ac[illegible]1926.

Rochester, N. Y., Mar. 16 (AFL).—In an outstanding decision here, Federal Judge Harlan W. Rippey refused to issue an injunction asked by three corporations restraining the National Labor Relations Board from holding hearings on complaints of unions that the concerns were guilty of unfair labor practices in violation of the Wagner-Connery Labor Disputes Act.

Although Judge Rippey did not pass directly upon the constitutionality of the Act, he held that a strong presumption of its constitutionality obtained from the failure of the companies to show beyond all reasonable doubt that the Act was unconstitutional as a whole.

Workers File Complaints

Complaints against E. I. duPont de Nemours & Co. and the duPont Rayon Company of Tonawanda were filed by the textile workers, who charged that the employers had placed circulars in employes' pay envelopes in an attempt to discourage union membership and had declined to participate in a collective bargaining conference, both of which actions, it was alleged, violated the Wagner-Connery Act.

The Iron Molders Union charged that the Precision Casting Company of Fayetteville had discharged 24 of its members for union affiliation. The complaint also alleged the company had urged, persuaded and warned employes not to join the union and had refused to bargain collectively.

The three corporations presented exhaustive arguments to support their contentions that the National Labor Relations Act in seeking to protect the workers in their right to organize without interference from employers and bargain collectively violated the Constitution of the United States; and that consequently an injunction should be issued restraining the Labor Board from considering the complaints.

High Points in Decision

The three main features of Judge Rippey's decision refusing the injunction were:

1. The corporations made no assertion that the Board was acting outside the realm of its authority under the Wagner-Connery Act. Consequently, the only ground on which the suits could be maintained was on the basis of complete invalidity of the Act.

2. The corporations had failed to

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ADDED WORKING HOURS HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR MORE UNEMPLOYMENT

Statement by A. F. of L. President Shows Lengthening of Three Hours a Week in Industry Since Scrapping of NRA Has Caused Loss of Million Jobs.

Says Unemployment Increase in January, 1936, Was Greater Than in Any Other January During Past Five Years—Attributes This to Lack of Cooperation From Industry and Employers in General—Figures Show 3,672,229 Were Employed on WPA and PWA Projects in January.

Washington, D. C., Mar. 14 (AFL).—Unemployment has recently struck 1,229,000 more workers, increasing the jobless army from 11,397,000 to 12,626,000, according to the statement on unemployment made public by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor.

As a major element entering into this large addition to America's out-of-works, Mr. Green cited the lengthening of the work week in industry three hours during the last half of 1935.

"Unemployment increased more in January, 1936, than in any other January for the last five years, according to the estimate of the American Federation of Labor," Mr. Green said. "Between December, 1935, and January, 1936, unemployment rose from 11,397,000 to 12,626,000, an increase of 1,229,000. Unemployment always rises in January, but last year the increase was only 699,000 and the last time there has been an increase approaching that of this year was in January, 1931, when 1,328,000 were added to the unemployed."

"How much of this employment loss is due to lengthening of work hours it is not yet possible to tell," Mr. Green continued. "It seems probable that longer hours have been an important factor, for records covering the months from July to December, 1935, show that the work week in industry generally has been lengthened by three hours and that as a consequence more than 1,000,000 possible jobs were lost. Undoubtedly, this movement to lengthen hours instead of employing men, which followed termination of NRA, has continued into January and accounts in part for the present situation. This point is further discussed in the American Federationist for March.

Industry Shirks Responsibility

"Another important factor was the slackening of manufacturing operations in January this year. When industry operates without control every decline in operations means a loss of thousands of jobs. Manufacturing industries this year laid off 130,000 people while in January, 1935, they took on 13,000. In retail trade lay-offs following the Christmas season affected 50,000 more persons this year than last. In agriculture the fall lay-offs appear to have cost 68,000 more jobs this year.

"The fact that we thus lost ground in a number of industries in January, following as it does the loss of over a million possible jobs in the last half of 1935, augurs ill for the future. It indicates that industry is making no determined effort to put the unemployed to work and is quite willing to shirk all responsibility for them. Under such conditions even the continuing production gains we hope for this spring will do little to restore the millions of jobs needed."

SIX STATES ASK SUPREME COURT TO UPHOLD GUFFEY COAL CONTROL ACT

Pennsylvania, Largest of Coal Producing States, Has Now Joined With Other States in Defense of Act—Sees Adverse Ruling as Peril to Industry—Act's Provisions Are Championed.

Pennsylvania, largest of the coal-producing states, has joined with New Mexico, Indiana, Kentucky, Washington and Illinois in a strong defense of the Guffey coal control act before the Supreme Court.

A brief filed by Pennsylvania declaring that an adverse decision might bring ruin to labor, coal operators, many communities and citizens of the state.

The Pennsylvania brief, signed by Attorney General Charles J. Margiotti and Deputy Attorney Generals Ladner and Friedman, contended the Guffy Act was the "only way out of a situation fraught with grave peril not only to the 23 states concerned but to the whole nation."

Case Held Vital

"This proceeding is one of vital concern to the State of Pennsylvania," the brief said, "since upon its outcome will depend whether a great industry shall be rehabilitated, stabilized and put on a firm foundation or permitted to be destroyed to the ruination of not only the coal operators an labor but many communities and citizens of Pennsylvania as well."

The brief recalled that the court had taken judicial notice of the "deplorable" conditions in the bituminous industry when Chief Justice Hughes wrote his opinion in the Appalachian coal case. That opinion modified previous court interpretations of the anti-trust laws to permit a degree of combination by coal producers.

In addition to the briefs filed by Pennsylvania, New Mexico and Indiana, briefs were also filed by the United Mine Workers of America and the government.

Act's Provisions Championed

The government brief pointed out that "denial of the right to organize and bargain collectively is a direct cause of repeated strikes."

"If Federal power extends to the strikers themselvs, as has been held," it added, "Congress certainly may deal with their inciting cause."

The government petition asserted that, in event any provision of the act—such as the wage and hour and collective bargaining provisions—were held unconstitutional, the remainder of the law setting up a "little NRA" for the industry shall still stand.

Wage, hour and collective bargaining provisions were defended by the government on the ground that labor conditions in the bituminous industry are more directly connected with interstate commerce than in any other industry.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS' PRESIDENT CLAIMS JOHN LEWIS BACKS DUAL UNIONISM IN DEFIANCE OF A. F. L. CONVENTION ORDER

A formal protest that the "Committee for Industrial Organization," headed by John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers of America, is promoting and encouraging dual unionism, was filed this week with the A. F. of L. by President Daniel W. Tracy of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

Tracy charged that the Lewis committee "has abetted and unduly influenced" the National Radio and Allied Trades to reject a proposal to affiliate with the I. B. E. W.

This action by the committee, Tracy declared, was taken arbitrarily, and is in "open defiance" of an order of the A. F. of L. Executive Council which granted "an orderly way" by which the radio manufacturing union could achieve all its major demands.

"For five months," Tracy said, "Mr. John L. Lewis and his associates have been carrying on a revolt in the ranks of the American Federation of Labor under the guise of an educational campaign. Repeatedly, Mr. Lewis and his associates have denied that they will establish a dual movement.

"In their hurried, arbitrary espousal of the case of the National Radio and Allied Trades there is evidence, plain and unmistakable, of the setting up of a rival organization in radio manufacturing and electrical manufacturing fields over which the Brotherhood of Electrical Workers has and always has had jurisdiction.

"This cannot be interpreted as anything else but dualism."

"Everything is All Upset in Maine"

This wire from Secretary Clarence R Burgess of the Maine State Federation of Labor, explains the shortage of news from correspondents for this month's issue of The Maine State Labor News:

"Everything upset in Maine during past week on account of rain and floods. No trains running. Busses very irregular. Didn't go to meeting of Maine Textile Council. No transportation. Didn't even get home over week-end.
CLARENCE R. BURGESS.

WPA Will Secure Workers Direct From Labor Organizations

Washington, D. C., Mar. 7 (AFL).—In order to end delays in construction projects, Works Progress Administrator Harry L. Hopkins issued an order enabling WPA contractors to requisition union labor direct from recognized labor organizations instead of going first to the United States Employment Service. The order covers both skilled and unskilled workers.

Projects included in the rule are those financed wholly or in part from funds allotted to the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works from funds appropriated by the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act of 1935.

Under the new plan the representative of the union will select union members for work on the project giving preference, first, to those members of the union who are on the local public relief rolls. When there are no union members on relief rolls, the union representative is authorized to select any other members of the organization.

FLOOD CONDITIONS MADE LABOR NEWS' REPRESENTATIVE'S RECENT JOURNEY IN EASTERN MAINE MOST EVENTFUL ONE

Trip From Portland to Bangor, Thence Through Waterville, Augusta, Gardiner and Hallowell, at Height of Most Destructive Moments, Presented Never to Be Forgotten Scenes—Rebuilding of Bridges and Damage to Factories and Roads to Make Extra Work for Mechanics and Laborers.

By RAYMOND R. BEAUDRY

Flood conditions unparalleled in the last decade wrought havoc in practically all sections of Maine during the past week, especially in cities and towns along the numerous river banks that wind their way in the usually ideal climatic setting of the Pine Tree State at most times of the year.

Unprecedented heavy rainfall that started about 10 days ago and was followed by a continuous downpour in many sections of the State until last Thursday night, reaching its climax on that day, led to an avalanche of destructive forces that demonstrated the fury of nature when the elements prove their superiority over the control of man.

Flood Conditions Apparent

Leaving Portland on Sunday night March 8th for a week's trip down East as far as Bangor, your correspondent traveled as far as the Queen City through villages and townships whose clear roads [illegible] the advent of a new season, but whose [illegible] banks of snow and [illegible] a grim [illegible] that the debut of Miss Spring would [illegible] to pedestrians and travelers by bus [illegible] or passenger [illegible].

Heavy fogs alone held promise of stemming off a rush of water that loomed inevitable and so proved to be, when the snow would be swept away by torrential rains. Warmer days the previous week had contributed greatly to reducing the great bulk of snow throughout the State and with fogs [illegible] that the onslaught of the [illegible] would be gradual.

[illegible] however the drizzling rain [illegible] travelers on the way to Augusta and [illegible] made roads difficult to travel with icy conditions and slush the contributing causes. The rainfall on that day was normal but at night the darkened skies let go of their load of rain in no mean proportions.

Going through Hallowell to Gardiner with friends to see the great motion picture classic "Rose Marie," starring that incomparable star Jeanette McDonald, which was featured at the Opera House in Gardiner, your correspondent noticed that the streets in those two cities, which were later

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Gratifying Results Are Reported from Meeting of Industrial Group

Coordinator George L. Berry States Committees Are Now Agreed on Vital Points to Work Out Program for Speeding Re-employment and Prevent Return of Industry Ills Caused by Depression.

Washington, D. C., Mar. 16 (AFL).—The Council for Industrial Progress headed by Industry Coordinator Geo. L. Berry, adopted by unanimous vote the reports of its committees on national industrial policy, the anti-trust laws and Federal Trade Commission Act, maximum work week, general wage, and child labor, and government competition with private enterprise.

Pending action on reports of the three additional committees and submission of a comprehensive report to President Roosevelt by the Coordinator, the committee's findings were not made public.

"The unanimous action of all the committees, which were comprised equally of representatives of management and labor, in preparing the reports, and the likewise unanimous agreement of the management-labor Council in accepting their conclusions thus far is indeed gratifying," Major Berry said, "and is final proof, is such be needed, of the ability of men from all elements of industry to get together on conclusions regarding the major problems confronting industry. Having outlined its policies, the Council has finished the first phase of its endeavors and, with endorsement from official sources, will be ready to proceed with long-term studies with a view to working out actual solutions of these most vital questions.

"The reports adopted and those to come before the Council in further sessions are in the nature of progress reports based on brief but concentrated study of all the facts obtainable from government and industry sources. All of the committees have asked that further research may be made in view of the tremendous importance of these matters to industry and their effect on the public welfare.

The reports yet to be acted upon include fair trade practices, internal and external competition, and financial aid to small enterprise.

The Council session was well attended and discussion of the committee reports was generally participated in by members. Some slight reservations to the findings were read into the record prior to the unanimous votes to adopt the reports.

The report on national industrial policy was presented to the committee's joint chairman, Flint Garrison,

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ALTHOUGH UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM IS STILL HUGE, INCREASED PRODUCTION OFFERS STRONG HOPES FOR RELIEF

"Growing Numbers on Welfare, However, Bring Increased Fears, and Industry is Depended Upon to Re-employ Portion of Vast Army of Unemployed," Says A. F. of L. Monthly Bulletin.

The first quarter of 1936 shows that industry is showing a better faith in recovery than at any time since the depression began; business men are more ready for sustained expansion of their activities. Increased profits lie at the bottom of this increased confidence. Industrial corporations show increased profits of 47 per cent from 1934 to 1935.

But the unemployment situation still continues to be a problem. We are still making but small progress in putting the unemployed to work. In January, 1936, only about a million more men and women were at work than in the previous January, 1935, leaving 12,600,000 persons still unemployed. There are still on public relief of one kind and another 15,500,000 persons, including the unemployed and their families, dependent upon relief or emergency work. The real wage of the employed worker was no higher in 1935 than in 1934, because a 5½ per cent rise in living costs has cancelled a like rise in wages. Moreover, average work hours have been increasd by 1¼ hours per week. Analysis shows that workers have not shared in the progress of industry.

Figures show that in 1929 there were but a million and a half persons on public relief. In 1936, there are 16,500,000 persons dependent upon emergency work or relief. But in the meantime, production is increasing and will probably soon reach a new high point in the depression period. Industry, as it forges ahead, is leaving unsolved the problem of re-employing the vast army of idle workers. When production outstrips buying power, production must cease, for lack of a market. Then unemployment ensues—and a depression follows.

While industry operated under the NRA, the balance between production and buying power was maintained. The end of the NRA resulted in marked losses to the workers and added profits to the manufacturers. Business no longer assumes any responsibility for absorbing the unemployed. While we have more than recovered half-way from the depths of the depression, the number of unemployed is but little short of the high peak

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CONSTITUTIONALITY OF GUFFEY COAL MEASURE DEFENDED BEFORE COURT

After exhaustive arguments for and against the constitutionality of the Guffey Coal Stabilization Act, the United States Supreme Court took the case under advisement with the probability that the decision will not be handed down for a number of weeks.

In addition to guaranteeing the right of the coal miners to organize and select representatives for collective bargaining without interference by employers and their agents, the Act provides that whenever maximum hours of labor are agreed upon in any contract or contracts between producers of more than two-thirds of the annual national tonnage and representatives of more than one-half of the employes, such maximum hours shall be accepted by all code members. There is a similar provision that wage agreements made in any district or group of districts by the same proportions of the producers and employes shall be accepted as the minimum wages by all code members in such district or group of districts.

The Act includes the levy of a 15 per cent tax on the sale price of bituminous coal at the mine, with the provision that 90 per cent of it shall be returned to operators who abide by the provisions of the code.

Labor Conditions Affect Interstate Commerce

The arguments on both sides related to the power of Congress to regulate the bituminous coal mining industry under its power, conferred by the Constitution, to regulate commerce among the States.

The Government contended that events extending over a long period had demonstrated the interstate character of collective bargaining in the bituminous coal industry and its relation to interstate competition. The Government also pointed out that disputes over wages, hours and the principle of collective bargaining have often engendered labor disturbances

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HEARING ON INJUNCTION PROCEEDINGS AGAINST PORTLAND THEATRICAL MEN SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY MORNING

Three Local Unions and Several Individuals to Appear in Supreme Judicial Court to Answer Citation Brought by Keith Theater Owners, Who Started Move to Halt Union Picketing—Statement by Union Official.

It is most evident the aggressive campaign started by Portland Locals 114 and 458 of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes and Moving Picture Operators, and the Central Labor Union, several months ago, is being felt by the proprietors of Keith's Theater, who last week started injunction proceedings to halt lawful picketing which was organized immediately after the theater was officially declared on Labor's "We Don't Patronize" list.

In their efforts to halt unions from taking advantage of their rights to carry on peaceful picketing in accordance with law, proprietors of this theater have named the following members of local unions, who were served with citations to appear in Supreme Judicial Court next Saturday morning (March 19th) at 10 o'clock:

Wilbur J. Vachon, Leslie S. Way, John A. Russell, Lester M. Bragdon, Charles Hicks, Wendell W. Doherty, George W. Hamblen, L. G. Tibbetts, Morris W. Eaton and Warren Moore, and Local No. 458, Moving Picture Operators and Stage Employes' Local 114, and Musicians' Local 364.

The usual form of complaint is made regarding conspiracy to injure the plaintiff's business. In all their arguments to be presented the Court, the unions will prove that what they did was legal and in accordance with prescribed laws.

Statement by Organizing Committee Chairman

"Keith's Theater of Portland has started court proceedings against the Portland Moving Picture Operators' Local 458, Stage Employes' Local 114 and Portland Musicians' Association, Local 464, to secure a temporary and permanent injunction to stop the picketing of said theater and is also suing to obtain damages to so compensate its loss of business since the picketing has been in effect at said theater.

"Brothers, we have told you, by personal contact and by communications, why Keith's Theater was being picketed, and the same holds true today. The management of Keith's Theater, who are from Boston, came into Portland with a 'chip on their shoulder' and the statement, 'What the —— do we care about the people of Portland, we're going to bust your organization and everything connected with it.'

"After nine months of negotiations, knowing we could not make any headway along these lines, we started to picket said theater and have been doing so ever since last August.

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NEW ELLENBOGEN BILL DRAFTED TO MEET ALL CONSTITUTIONAL TESTS

Washington, D. C., Mar. 16 (AFL).—Representative Ellenbogen of Pennsylvania, author of the bill to rehabilitate and stabilize labor conditions in the textile industry, announced the introduction of a modified measure on which it is expected the House Labor Committee, which recently held hearings on the original bill, will make a favorable report.

It was stated that the new bill provides a maximum 35-hour week, a minimum wage of $15, limits machine operations to two shifts, abolishes child labor, and calls for time and one-half for all work in excess of 35 hours a week. There is no provision for sectional wage differentials.

The national textile commission, created by the measure, is given authority to fix minimum wage rates for skilled and semi-skilled workers. The commission is empowered to issue cease and desist orders against violators of the proposed law.

The original bill provided for a system of licenses for textile manufacturers and provisions for compulsory vacations, dismissal wage, and the requirement of 15 days' notice before any change in work assignment. It was said these controversial features would be eliminated in the new measure.

Representative Ellenbogen expressed the conviction that the modified bill would meet all constitutional tests which opponents of the plan brought against the first draft.

HAROLD DUBORD, DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE FOR U. S. SENATOR, TO ADDRESS CLU ON NATIONAL SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

All members of local unions and delegates who will attend tomorrow (Wednesday) night's meeting of the Portland Central Labor Union, will have an opportunity to become more thoroughly conversant with the National Social Security Act.

This will be an open meeting, and at which all working people in Portland are invited to attend. The speaker will be Harold Dubord, Democratic candidate for the United States Senate, who has made a special study of the act and whose talk, it is certain, will be both instructive and illuminative.

The application of the Act, as it applies to national and local significance, is a subject that is being seriously discussed in union circles throughout the nation, and as it concerns old age pensions, unemployment insurance and other matters intended to alleviate conditions of working people, unprecedented interest is manifested in this most important subject.

The committee named to arrange for the meeting looks forward to a large attendance and indications at this writing are that all local unions will be represented by large delegations.

C. L. U. to Sponsor Beano Party and Dance

A committee named at the March 4th meeting to make arrangements for holding a beano party and dance will report on the progress made thus far, and it is expected a date and place for holding this will be decided at tomorrow night's meeting.

President Tardiff on Sick List

The many friends of Albert N. Tardiff, president of the Portland Central Labor Union, who has been ill at his home on Brackett street, were glad to learn that he is rapidly recovering and will be able to resume his duties in a few days.

A. F. of L. Backs Meat Cutters in Dispute With Morrell Co.

President William Green of the American Federation of Labor, sent a letter to all A. F. of L. central bodies, federal labor unions and organizers, urging them to solidly support the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America in their long controversy with the John Morrell Company relative to the victimization of union members.

According to information made public by the union, the John Morrell Co. laid off 108 of the most active members of the Meat Cutters' Local Union at Sioux Falls, S. D., early last year. The layoff resulted in a strike, following which the company agreed to reinstate all but 29 of the discharged members, whose cases were taken to the St. Paul Regional Labor Board. The board decided the men had been unjustly discriminated against and ordered the company to reinstate them. The company refused to conform with the order of the board, and in July the Meat Cutters' Union ordered another strike, which is still in effect.

The Meat Cutters' Union organized a coast-to-coast campaign against the products of the Morrell Company, whose plants are located at Sioux Falls, S. D.; Ottumwa, Iowa, and Topeka, Kansas.

The 1935 convention of the American Federation of Labor adopted a resolution requesting the A. F. of L. Executive Council to offer its services in an effort to adjust the controversy and added that in case the Morrell Company refused to arrange the matter amicably the Executive Council should "lend all moral support to the Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen in giving nation-wide publicity to the controversy."

In his letter to organized labor, which was read during the past few weeks at meetings of Central Labor Unions, President Green said:

"Conforming to the well-established policy of the American Federation of Labor and complying with the provisions of this resolution, we tendered the good offices of the American Federation of Labor to the John Morrell Company in an effort to adjust the questions at issue between this company and its employes. Our offer was ignored except for the acknowledgment of its receipt by the office of the company.

"President Gorman and his associated officers of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America greatly desire your moral support in their struggle with this company.

"I sincerely trust that you will do everything within your power to aid President Gorman and his associate officers in the fight they are waging to protect the rights and interests of their members and to have the organized labor movement understand and aid them in the fight they are making."

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UNITED TEXTILE WORKERS' OFFICIALS CONFER WITH PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT WEDNESDAY ON ELLENBOGEN MEASURE

Satisfied Manufacturers Will Do Little to Bring About Industrial Security, Officials Are Determined to Bring Matter to Attention of President With Hope He Will Use His Influence for Passage of New Textile Bill.

(Special to The Labor News)

Providence, R. I., Mar. 16.—The United Textile Workers of America, through its president, Thomas F. McMahon, tonight announced a nation-wide campaign to stabilize all branches of the textile industry, and which will include a personal appeal to President Franklin D. Roosevelt for active support of the National Textile Act.

Arriving here from New York, where he presided over a four-day session of the executive council, which ended late last night, President McMahon said: "The executive council has decided that the manufacturers have indicated that they will do little to bring about the industrial security necessary for the future progress of the nation and so the workers have decided to take matters into their own hands for their own welfare and the welfare of their industry."

President McMahon stated that a committee including himself as chairman, Vice-President Francis J. Gorman, President William Green of the American Federation of Labor, and Congressman Henry Ellenbogen, sponsor of the National Textile Act will confer with President Roosevelt at the White House on Wednesday.

To Confer With President

"It is our intention," President McMahon said, "to present a graphic word picture of conditions in the textile industry at the present time and to urge his active support in obtaining passage of the National Textile Act at this session of Congress."

The international president said that in addition to the visit to President Roosevelt the campaign provides for a concentrated organization drive in the South, united action on the part of all workers to put pressure on members of Congress and the U. S. Senate for the passage of the National Textile Act, and last, the strengthening of Northern unions so that they might maintain their present standards.

President McMahon announced that the executive council approved of the revised National Textile Act, which is now being considered in Congress and urged as great a "home lobby" of the workers as was emphasized during the movement for the passage of the original act.

"It is our plan to so strongly organize the South that Northern manufacturers, who feel that they can move their plants below the Mason-Dixon line and break down standards at the expense of the workers, will hesitate.

To Fortify Workers

"We intend to so fortify the workers that there will be no opportunity for the manufacturers in one section to use the conditions of a manufacturer in another locality to change conditions which directly affect the operatives. It is uniformity we are aiming at and uniformity we will get.

"In the North," he said, "organized workers will be encouraged to take drastic action to keep hours, wages and conditions that are just. In places where the organization is considered weak, then this section will be given special attention. We do not intend to lock the door in the front and let any manufacturer sneak in through the back with his destructive program."

President McMahon said that the executive board had selected a committee of seven to direct the program and that this board would meet on Thursday in Washington. After the program has been completed it will be directed by President McMahon from the New York headquarters of the United Textile Workers.

The committee, in addition to President McMahon and Vice-President Gorman, includes Vice-President William F. Kelly, Philadelphia; Vice-President John A. Peel, Greenville, S. C.; Emile Rieve, president Federation of Full Fashioned Hosiery Workers, Philadelphia; Frank Schweitzer, secretary Federation of Silk and Rayon Workers, Paterson, N. J.; and George Baldanzi, president Dyers, Finishers, and Bleachers' Federation, Paterson.

Program Endorsed

President McMahon explained that representatives of all of the federations affiliated with the U. T. W. of A., appeared before the executive board and all endorsed the program before it was adopted.

After the decision of the executive board and its plans were outlined to the Rhode Island Textile Council at Pawtucket on Sunday by Vice-President Horace A. Riviere, the delegates became the first in the nation to take steps to make it effective. It pledged a new campaign for the passage of the National Textile Act and made preparations to check any attempts at wage reductions, lengthening of work hours or extension of the work load.

"It is the decision of the executive board that the mills which have moved from the North to the South will command the attention of the international program first," Vice President Riviere said.

"There are those that charge that the National Textile Act is unconstitutional but what right have they to make any such statements. There is only one body that can declare [illegible] act unconstitutional and that is the Supreme Court. When the Supreme Court has declared enough laws unconstitutional, and they find that most of these so-called illegal laws directly affect the workers and the farmers, then there will be a movement of sufficient strength to curb the power of this high judicial body," the international officer told the delegates.

Pledge Support

The council also pledged its support to the Woolen and Worsted Federation of the United Textile Workers of America in its plans for higher wages, general improvement of working conditions and organization campaigns in all centers to encourage the manufacturers to adopt the work price list which was presented to the employers a year ago.

Further plans for the campaign and the announcement of committees to take an active part will be made at the next meeting of the council, in Woolsorters' Hall, Olneyville, on Apr. 19th.

Cigar Makers' Co-Operative Opens Mail Order Business

The Cigarmakers' Cooperative Association of Reading, Penn., has opened a mail order department. The purpose of the new direct selling agency is not to compete with fair manufacturers of cigars in the larger centers, but to supply the ever-increasing demand for union-made cigars in smaller communities.

The Cigarmakers' Cooperative was originally formed to buy leaf tobacco and sell it at reasonable prices to small unionized cigar manufacturers. The demand for union-made cigars has grown to such an extent in communities where there are no locally manufactured union "smokes" that the Association has decided to inaugurate a direct-sales mail order department.

The brand of the union label product is named after the famous Labor leader, Samuel Gompers. It will be sold in five and ten-cent sizes. Those who desire to buy union-made cigars and are unable to buy them in their locality, can order directly from A. P. Bower, secretary, Cigarmakers' Cooperative Association, Reading, Pa.

THE CASE OF LOUIS MARSOLAIS vs. KROEHLER CO., AN INDICTMENT BEFORE THE BAR OF AMERICAN PUBLIC OPINION

Penniless Employe Unjustly Discharged by Wealthiest Livingroom Furniture Manufacturer in the World, Now Makes Public Contemptible Means Taken by Unfair Employers to Persecute Workers—Vows He Will Flood Country With Literature Containing Further Indictments Against This Company.

Delegates who attended the March 4th meeting of the Portland Central Labor Union were greatly interested in a circular letter received from Louis Marsolais, a discharged employe of the Kroehler Manufacturing Co., of Kankakee, Ill., in which he outlined how he was unjustly discharged and the sufferings he was subjected to as a result.

The letter was the subject of an interesting discussion and The Labor News was requested to make its contents known to members of Organized Labor in Portland. The letter follows:

"My name is Louis Marsolais. I live at 443 North Indiana avenue in Kankakee, Ill. I am a natural born citizen of the United States. For the past 13 years I have been employed by the Kroehler Manufacturing Company. This company is the richest and largest wholesale manufacturer of livingroom furniture in the world, with many huge plants scattered throughout the United States and Canada.

"On November 27, 1935, I was discharged by the company without any warning whatever. The superintendent claimed that I tried to repair a broken back leg of an overstuffed chair by driving a nail through it, which would have been wrong. As the case was, I merely drove the nail into the leg after it was scrapped and useless. The leg was worth approximately 25 cents.

Union Asks for A Hearing

"When my fellow employes asked C. B. Kroehler, the head of the plant, for a hearing to enable me to tell my side of the story, C. B. Kroehler told them that he did not care to hear anything about it, that my case, as well as that of another employe who was also unjustly discharged, was closed as far as he was concerned,

(Continued on Page 6)

"THEY HAVE SLAMMED THE DOOR IN OUR FACES," SAY AKRON TIRE WORKERS, "AND STRIKE MUST GO ON!"

Akron, O., Mar. 16.—"The Strike must of necessity go on. They have slammed the door in our faces." This was the answer of the thousands of strikers who came out of the huge Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company plant last February to the threat of the bosses to re-open the plant with scab labor.

Abruptly, in the midst of negotiations looking towards settlement, the Goodyear executives called off further parleys today and, despite the fact that the United Rubber Workers' Union expressed willingness to continue negotiations, declared that all company proposals were off.

The brusque announcement of the company that it would re-open its plant and would not hold to its proposal to take back strikers without discrimination, served merely to stiffen the collective backbone of the strikers. Picket lines were strengthened and the entire strike organization stepped up.

At the headquarters of the Goodyear recruiting staffs at a down-town hotel there was great activity in organizing a "law and order league" to be led by ex-Mayor C. Nelson Sparks, one of Akron's original Borah boosters. On the radio, Mr. Sparks breathed fire against "outside agitators" and announced that his Vigilantes would protect any "loyal worker" who wanted to scab.

HAVERHILL NOW 100 PER CENT BOOT AND SHOE WORKERS' UNION

Haverhill, Massachusetts, Mar. 14. On January 2, some 6,000 Haverhill shoe workers transferred membership from the United Shoe and Leather Workers' Union to the Boot and Shoe Workers' International Union. After 35 years, during which time they experimented with all kinds of independent unions, the Haverhill workers returned to the American Labor movement and renewed their allegiance to the American Federation of Labor.

One remarkable feature of this important event was its peaceful and orderly character. Through the long years, the Haverhill workers had been fed with destructive propaganda against the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, and the large number of so-called "leaders" in the independent unions used the same propaganda during the late months of 1935 when they saw the sentiment for the Boot and Shoe organization growing steadily among the workers. But, despite all this, despite every effort that desperation could teach the "leaders", the workers calmly went their own way, demonstrating clearly and positively that they were through with petty, independent organizations that gave jobs to the promoters and took jobs away from the masses of workers. The transfer was made without the least interruption of production, nor a sign of any disturbance.

During the past few months, the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union has taken deep and firm root in Haverhill. By its actions and policy it has given the lie to propaganda circulated by enemies of organized labor. Many of those workers, originally hostile to the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, have admitted their error and have swung solidly to its support, while the mass of the Haverhill shoe workers have, by actions and by words, indicated their hearty approval.

STATES DECLARED EAGER TO SHARE IN BENEFITS OF SECURITY PROGRAM

Response Shows Advantages of Cooperation Under Federal Act Are Realized, Says Board Official, Who Declares Security for Nation as Whole Is Implicit in New Law.

Response of states up to the present indicates that they realize the benefits of participating in the Federal program of social security, Merrill G. Murray, associate director of the Federal Security Board's Bureau of Unemployment Compensation, told the Sunday Forum of the Minneapolis Public Library.

Declaring the states realize the Federal program means social security for their citizens, Murray announced:

"Eight states and the District of Columbia have passed laws on unemployment compensation which have been approved by the Social Security Board. Nineteen states are now receiving grants from the board for old-age assistance; 13 states are receiving grants for aid to dependent children; 13 states are receiving grants for aid to the blind."

Act Means National Security

Social security for the nation as a whole, as well as for the individual, is implicit in the Social Security Act, Murray declared.

"Providing for the security of the individual," said Mr. Murray, "reacts to the greater security and well being of the community of which he is a member. Secure, he is a respected member of society, a purchaser of goods and an active participant in the social and economic scene.

"Insecure and in want, he must depend upon others for his existence. Instead of being a constructive member of his community, he may be a burden upon it. His realization of that fact is as destructive to his morale as is his actual need."

Ideal Security Defined

Murray's subject for the Forum was: "What Does Social Security Mean?" "From an idealistic point of view, it means the existence of a state where every man, woman and child is assured the opportunity of living with self-respect," he said. "It means that the fears of dependency upon charity, of starvation, homelessness, old age, and sickness have been taken from them.

"We have never achieved that state," declared the speaker, "but in the prosperous days of the 20's, we were pretty well satisfied with ourselves as a nation whose rugged individualism put us on the top of the heap as far as standards of living were concerned. We had our jobless; our needy aged, our dependent children, to be sure, but money being plentiful, in public coffers and in private, their care constituted no problem to us. It was not until the depression hit us that we realized how poor and inadequate were our resources as compared with the constructive programs of other nations."

Murray described the effects of the depression on the jobless, the old, on children, on the community, and traced the relationship between them.

Loss of Job Affects Many

"A man loses his job," he said, "and the economic implications of that incident often reach out to a whole group of people, both within his family and outside his family. He suffers in loss of income and morale, his children suffer, his aged dependents suffer, the neighborhood store he deals with suffers. As the incident is repeated, the circle widens and more people become involved in it. The only answer to this problem we have known in the past is relief through public or private agencies for those who go under."

The Social Security Act, Murray said, is designed to control this situation at its inception. **Instead of destroying the heritage of rugged individualism that this nation is so proud of, it puts new foundations under it.**

"In the place of emergency relief to the large army of employables, it substitutes the more constructive plan of unemployment benefits and old-age benefits. For the care of unemployables—the needy aged, dependent children, the blind, the disabled—it sets up a program of assistance wherein the Federal Government shares the burden of their support with the states."

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Resettlement Projects Make Homes for 14,000

Washington, D. C., Mar. 4 (AFL).—Officials of the Resettlement Administration report that 3,000 families, comprising approximately 14,000 persons, are living on resettlement community projects. Fifty-three projects are already completed and 20 others are in process of construction.

Be Spic and Span for The Easter Parade!
WHY ORDER NEW CLOTHES FOR EASTER?
JUST SEND YOUR OLD CLOTHES HERE TO BE CLEANSED BY WATKINS AND YOU WILL BE SURPRISED AT THE RESULTS—
YOU'LL LITERALLY HAVE A NEW EASTER COSTUME WITHOUT EXPENDING MORE THAN THE MODEST COST OF HAVING YOUR CLOTHES SANITONED.
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HAS THE BEST MADE IN MAINE
You Don't Have to Go Out of State to Buy Good
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BEGINNING THURSDAY, MARCH 19, AND CONTINUING THROUGH SATURDAY, MARCH 28, WE ARE CELEBRATING OUR
62ND Anniversary Sale
with the greatest assortments of Brand New Spring and Easter Merchandise it has ever been our pleasure to offer . . . not just another sale, but our greatest Sale of the year. Watch the local newspaper for further details.
NEW SPRING SUITS . . COATS . . DRESSES . . HANDBAGS
UNDERWEAR . . GLOVES . . TOILETRIES . . HOSIERY, . . Etc.

HERBERT W. SANBORN, PROMINENT IN STATE AND LOCAL LABOR MOVEMENT FOR MANY YEARS, TAKEN BY SUDDEN DEATH

In the passing of Herbert W. Sanborn, whose death occurred suddenly at his home in Augusta on February 19th, Local Union 914 of the Carpenters and Joiners of America lost a true and valued member whose cheerful and untiring work in the cause of Labor will never be forgotten.

Funeral services were held February 28th and were attended by a large number of members of Local 914 and by members of other unions, and officers and members of the State Federation and the Augusta Central Labor Union.

Mr. Sanborn was well and favorably known throughout the city and had faithfully served for many years as financial secretary and business agent of the Local and had also been a delegate to the State Federation and the Central Labor Union, and held offices in both organizations.

He was a true union man and possessed a most pleasing personality. He was always ready to assist a member, and his death will be deeply mourned as was shown by the large number of members who attended the last rites. The following resolutions were adopted by Local 914 at the last meeting:

WHEREAS, The Divine Ruler of the Universe has seen fit to remove from our midst our beloved brother, Herbert W. Sanborn, and

WHEREAS, His fellow workmen and Lodge brothers who have labored with him for many years are desirous of testifying their respect for his memory and expressing their heartfelt sympathy with his family who are deprived of a loving Father and Brother, Therefore be it

RESOLVED, By Local 914, Carpenters and Joiners of America, that we humbly submit to the will of the Divine Father. We do not the less mourn our Brother who has been taken from us, and be it further

RESOLVED, That in the death of our Brother, this Union laments the loss of one who was ever ready to offer the hand of aid and the voice of sympathy in the time of need, a friend and companion who was dear to us all, and be it further

RESOLVED, That these resolutions be spread on our records and a copy sent to the family of the deceased, one to the Kennebec Journal, and one to The Labor News.

Committee on Resolutions
I. H. FOSTER
C. T. RUSSELL.

ADMINISTRATION SCORED FOR FAILURE TO UPHOLD NEUTRALITY BILL THEREBY ENCOURAGING CONGRESS TO DEFER ACTION

Claim Present Law Inadequate Chiefly Because It Does Not Limit Sale of War Materials to Belligerants and Prevent Greed for Profits From Involving Country In War.

Workers of Maine are greatly interested in an article recently published concerning the action of Congress in extending the present neutrality law until May, 1937. The matter was discussed at the recent meeting of the executive council of the Maine State Federation of Labor, when disappointment was expressed over the stand taken by the Administration. The article follows:

Peace-minded citizens received a severe shock when the administration failed to support its own neutrality bill, and Congress extended the existing neutrality law until May 1937 under gag rule strengthening it only by prohibiting loans and credits to belligerents. The present law is inadequate chiefly because it does not limit the sale of war materials to belligerents. It cannot prevent the greed for profits from involving us in foreign wars. It does continue our obstruction of such collective action as the other nations may want to take to shorten or prevent war.

The failure of the Administration to insist on an adequate neutrality law should precipitate a nation wide protest, and voters throughout the country should now lay the groundwork for amending the present law to include the important provisions of the Nye-Clark Maverick bill.

We can no longer ignore the fact that the Administration's policies are not policies which make for peace between the United States and the other nations of the world. The huge army and navy appropriations increasing each year at an alarming pace do not make for peace. The failure of the Administration to repudiate the [illegible] attack made by Senator Pittman against Japan on the floor of the Senate in which he advocated build[illegible] our navy and air forces to the point where we can beat Japan in Asia in behalf of our investments in China, does nothing to build a more harmonious friendship between this country and Japan.

If these policies are allowed to continue there can be nothing else for the United States but WAR. The Pan American Pact, which the President [illegible] Naval [illegible] and other [illegible] have gone unless the people [illegible] 1937.

[illegible] know, and know quickly from the people of this country if we are to stay out of war.

Har-Co Wallpaper Stores, Inc.

FINE WALLPAPERS
MODENE PAINTS

Glass Window Shades
Oils

323 WATER STREET
AUGUSTA, MAINE

We Cater to Union Painters

Brockton Shoe Mfg. Company Moves

Brockton, Massachusetts, Mar. 14—A. Freedman & Sons, Inc., shoe manufacturers who had been in the city of Brockton for many years, and carried on a very successful business, were forced to move to New Bedford to carry on their business.

The system of stewards in the factory, disorganization among Brotherhood officials, and many other reasons have been given for the removal. Regardless of the reason, or who may be at fault, the good city of Brockton has lost an industry which gave employment to 175 operatives. The merchants who pay rents and taxes should be interested.

Several other manufacturers are contemplating similar moves, and it is common knowledge that pressure is being brought to force the Boot & Shoe Workers' Union, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor, to make a survey of conditions in Brockton and report its findings to the committee of shoe manufacturers.

modernize at LOW COST

LOANS ARE NOW AVAILABLE
THROUGH THE NATIONAL HOUSING ACT, FOR REPAIRS, ALTERATIONS, IMPROVEMENTS

ANSWERS— concerning the National Housing Act
1. Loans are available at Banks, etc., who are guaranteed against loss by the government.
2. Loans from $100 to $2000 can be made for alterations, repairs, improvements.
3. Loans are repaid in equal monthly payments within 3 years, at interest of not over $5 per $100.

Ask or Write for Folder concerning the National Housing Act!

Conditions were never more favorable for improving your property and making necessary repairs.

MONEY IS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE NATIONAL HOUSING ACT—

BUILDING MATERIALS ARE STILL AT LOW PRICE LEVELS—

"THE DEPARTMENT STORE FOR BUILDING" CAN COMPLETELY SUPPLY YOUR NEEDS AT ONCE.

AUGUSTA LUMBER CO.
Tel. 2158 "The Department Store for Building" Arsenal St.

"Cashing In" at the Expense of Unemployed is "Rotten Stuff"

Taking advantage of the element of human distress, by alleged bribery, cheating and conspiracy, a former chief of the ERA has been indicted, along with several others.

In all, some 19 men have come under the legal ban for one reason or another connected with endeavoring to cash in at the expense of the government. Heading the list of those accused is John A. McDonough, former Maine ERA Administrator. Already, Superior Court trials are in progress and the result will be awaited with great interest on the part of the impartial public.

Former Chief Justice William E. Pattangall was named special assistant to the Attorney for the County. The defense counsel includes several prominent lawyers, Frank E. Southard, chairman of the Maine Public Utilities Commission, Arthur Tiffin of Augusta, and former Superior Court Justice Joseph E. F. Connolly of Portland.

One specific charge against McDonough includes employment of ERA workers on his own property. Also the alleged obtaining of a percentage of profits made by the firms selling clothing to the ERA and falsifying payrolls on ERA construction. Other defendants are charged with attempts to influence by distributing without authority, ERA clothing.

The matter of prosecuting the accused due to a question of jurisdiction, as it is contended by defendants that ERA matters belong in Federal and not State courts, has been the subject of much discussion.

The incident is causing much unfavorable comment and although inclined to give the accused men the benefit of doubt until tried, evidence seemed to the effect that funds applied to the government for relief of the unemployed have been misused by those in authority, causes even the most friendly and sympathetic [illegible] that the guilty are punished if facts can be produced to convict them.

Benefit to Maine Roads from Federal Funds is Analyzed

The Works Progress Administration has made known some interesting figures relating to highways, roads and streets in the State of Maine with regard to expenditures for their improvement. Of almost [illegible] available on the last day of December 1935 about a million and a quarter was being used for highways or similar work. A large part of that fund was spent for improvements on secondary roads or those leading from farms to the main highways. Bridges, streets and other related projects accounted for the balance of the Federal money.

Water supply and sewer systems were included in the general program, with public buildings, parks and playgrounds following, with proportionately smaller allotments. Other categories included flood control, conservation, transportation and educational and clerical work. A nallotment of $158,000 was made for airports and airways.

Why Pick on Old People? Why Not Quiz Liberty League?

Congress recently appointed a special committee to investigate old age pension "rackets". It is frankly conceded, however, that the Townsend Plan is the principal point of attack.

During the debate one speaker declared that at the Chicago convention of the Townsendites, Dr. Townsend stated, in reply to a question, that $1,200,000 had been collected. But, the Congressman insisted, only $600,000 has been expended, according to the official Townsend report.

"Where is the rest of the money?" he asked.

Congressman McGroarty of California, who has been sponsoring a modified Townsend bill, told the House the friends of the Townsend Plan welcomed the investigation.

Congressman "Joe" Monaghan of Montana, an ardent advocate of the Plan, said:

"The only way you can possibly destroy rackets—and there are some rackets in this cause—is to enact a decent and adequate pension for the millions of aged people of this country who are calling upon this Congress for action, and action now, in their behalf. You will not destroy it by persecution; you will promote it."

Instead of investigating the Townsend Plan, Monaghan insisted the leaders should permit the House to vote on the McGroarty bill.

"Why not open it up so that the Liberty League can be investigated and other organizations raising money for any legitimate purposes? Why pick on old people alone?" O'Malley of Wisconsin inquired.

There were only four votes against the resolution authorizing an investigation.

Look over your last receipt and see if it isn't time to renew your subscription to The Labor News. Do this TODAY, please!

SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS LAW GIVING STATES RIGHT TO BAR PRISON GOODS

Washington, D. C., Mar. 11 (I.L.N.S).—The Hawes-Cooper Act, designed to permit states to bar prison-made goods, was upheld by the Supreme Court in a unanimous decision on March 2.

The court's decision is regarded as an important victory for organized labor, which sponsored the Hawes-Cooper Act, was largely instrumental in having it made law and has fought vigorously to have it upheld and enforced.

In upholding the law, the Supreme Court decided that prison-made goods produced in one state may not be sold in other state which have laws against such sale.

The opinion, read for the court by Justice Sutherland, is regarded of prime importance in states which have passed these laws for their protection.

The case originated when Asa H. Whitfield sold in Cleveland, Ohio, one dozen Chambray work shirts manufactured at Wetumpka Prison in Alabama, and also sold six dozen of the shirts for shipment to R. C. Kissack of Lakewood, Ohio. Whitfield's conviction in the Cleveland Municipal Court was sustained by the higher state courts.

Lawyers for Whitfield argued that Congress lacked power to divest itself of control over interstate commerce and thus could not give control over prison-made articles to the states, and they further contended that Congress could not stop interstate commerce in goods that were not harmful.

Justice Sutherland said in the court's opinion that "the view of the State of Ohio that the sale of convict-made goods in competition with the products of free labor is an evil finds ample support in fact and in the similar legislation of a preponderant number of the other states."

> **"All such legislation, state and Federal, proceeds upon the view that free labor, properly compensated, cannot compete successfully with the enforced and unpaid or underpaid convict labor of the prison," the opinion continued.**

"A state basing its legislation upon that conception has the right and power, so far as the Federal Constitution is concerned, by non-impairing legislation, to preserve its policy from impairment or defeat, by any means appropriate to the end and not inconsistent with that instrument."

Alabama fought, and Ohio defended, the Hawes-Cooper Act in the arguments before the court. New York intervened in behalf of its law similar to Ohio's.

The Hawes-Cooper Act gives effective control over convict-made goods to the states which have passed enabling laws, except where goods are made in Federal penitentiaries for use in such institutions in other states.

TOWNSEND ADHERANTS LAMBAST THOSE WHO REFER TO PENSION PLAN AS "FANTASTIC AND COCK-EYED"

Speaker Says Thousands of Workers Are Intimidated Against Joining Organization by Fear of Gaining Displeasure of Wooden Headed Bosses Whose Minds Are Poisoned From "So Much Pulp Paper Magazine Stuff" Printed in Opposition to the Plan Says Plan Looms as Big Political Factor and Amazing Growth of Organization is Warning to Congressmen.

Worcester, Massachusetts, Mar. 14.—"Stick together, members of the Townsend Plan; if you do, and if you will move in one direction nobody will be elected to Congress this Fall unless you say so!"

This statement was among the closing remarks of Judge John W. Carabine, of Springfield, in the course of his hour's address last Sunday afternoon to the Townsend [illegible]. It gave point and logic to the now **persistent reiteration** [illegible] Townsendites are on [illegible] **scalps of their** political opponents [illegible] **Congress.** If the reports of Townsend **organization** work as related by the speaker may be relied upon there is much ground for their claims.

Piety and Patriotism Rule

The opening of the meeting was [illegible] right hand side of the stage where the national flag was revealed. There was absolutely no spirit of levity anywhere in the audience. All seemed impressed with the solemn seriousness of the occasion. Perhaps the day being Sabbath had something to do with this restrained attitude. But it was evident that these people had come there with a serious thought in mind, from which they were not going to be diverted, nor were they. This attitude of quiet determination is something to be reckoned with as some brashly skeptical politicians may realize this coming Fall after the polls have been closed and the votes counted.

Judge Carabine Explains Inspiration of Plan

After a quite extended concert of vocal and instrumental music, Dr. H. E. K. Whitney of Winchendon introduced the speaker of the day, Judge Carabine of Springfield. Tall, spare, shrewd and determined of visage, he at once plunged into his discourse, all through which he shot colloquial wit

(Continued on Page 6)

Twenty Automobile Fatalities Occurred in Maine in Jan.-Feb.

The Maine Highway Safety Committee, [illegible] Maine State Federation [illegible] is a member, [illegible] 2[illegible] automobile fatalities [illegible] during the months of January and February. There were 13 in January and 7 in February.

Causes for these fatalities are outlined as follows: Improper driving, 1; defective equipment, 1; hazardous road surfaces, 2; pedestrian on roadway, [illegible]; coasting and playing on roadway, [illegible]; other causes, 3. No deaths occurred as the result of drunken driving, says the report.

Divided by counties, the report shows one fatality occurred in Androscoggin, one in Aroostook, four in Cumberland, two in Kennebeck, one each in Knox and Oxford, three in Penobscot, one in Somerset, two in Waldo one in Washington and two in York.

The report is signed by Walter J. Brennan, director of the Maine Highway Commission.

THE LABOR NEWS, 50c A YEAR

Greetings From

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BRADFORD CLOTH

AUGUSTA — MAINE

SAFETY

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Deposits received before the tenth of the month, draw interest from the first.

WATERVILLE SAVINGS BANK
175 Main Street Waterville, Maine

Worcester CLU Places Ban on "Amateur Fire Brigade" Film

Worcester, Massachusetts, Mar. 14. The Central Labor Union, at Wednesday night's meeting, went on record against the showing of the sound film, "Amateur Fire Brigade," on the ground that it is un-American and was produced for the purpose of creating animosity, encouraging disrespect for the office of President of the United States, and promoted to build up a hatred for government as now constituted.

According to a communication from the Toledo Central Labor Union, the film was produced by the Sentinels of the Republic, and sponsored by Liberty Leaguers and business organizations, which in their opinion, is "designed as a withering blast at our present Administration".

The communication states the group fostering the film has fought Labor at every opportunity in the past in legislative halls of the State and Nation, and are now endeavoring to carry their propaganda to an unsuspecting public.

It was the concensus of opinion among delegates who discussed the matter that local theater managers would not show the picture if acquainted with its real objects, and if it is known to be displeasing to the 35,000 members of organized labor and friends in Worcester and vicinity.

To meet this situation, all managers will be contacted within a few days, and asked not to show the film here, all those taking part in the discussion feeling that its production was prompted by groups whose motives are purely selfish, and who hope to attain their ends through this brand of propaganda.

THE LABOR NEWS, 50c A YEAR

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ESTABLISHED 1859
"WHERE ECONOMY RULES"

TUNE IN KATE SMITH at Coffee Time EVERY Tues., Wed., Thurs. STATION WNAC 7:30 P. M.

TO TRY
EIGHT O'CLOCK COFFEE
MILD AND MELLOW
SPECIALLY PRICED 1 lb. PKG. 15c

RED CIRCLE 1 lb. PKG. RICH AND FULL BODIED 17c
BOKAR 1 lb. TIN VIGOROUS AND WINEY 19c

BUTTER Highest Quality Creamery Print or Tub Lb 37c
SUNNYFIELD Butter 1-4-lb. prints Lb 39c
EGGS Fresh Selected Dozen 29c

SALADA TEA Red Label ¼-lb. pkg. 22c
GOLD MEDAL WHEATIES 8-oz. pkg. 10c
POST'S WHOLE BRAN 18-oz. pkg. 19c
RED SALMON tall can 23c
FRUIT COCKTAIL Del Monte 2 16-oz. cans 29c
SHRIMP 2 5¾-oz. cans 23c
TOMATOES Packer's Label 4 19-oz. cans 25c
SEMINOLE TOILET TISSUE 3 1000-sheet rolls 20c
Snow White, Fully Wrapped
CHEESE RITZ Uneeda Baker's 8-oz. pkg. 17c
RITZ UNEEDA BAKERS BUTTER CRACKERS pound package 19c
BABBITT'S CLEANSER 3 cans 13c
SALADA TEA Red Label ½-lb. pkg. 43c
GORTON'S READY-TO-FRY CODFISH 2 10-oz. cans 25c
EAGLE CONDENSED MILK 15-oz. can 19c
2 Labels and 25c Good for a Chromium Serving Tray

— AT OUR MEAT MARKETS —
All meats are guaranteed to satisfy or your money refunded.
Top Round STEAK Heavy Steer Beef Lb 33c
CUBE STEAK Heavy Steer Beef Lb 29c
SPARE RIBS Fresh or Corned lb 19c
PIGS LIVER lb. 15c
HADDOCK lb 10c - MACKEREL lb 12c
SALT COD BITS 2 lbs 25c

A & P BREADS
received fresh daily
Grandmother's White, 20-oz. loaf 8c
Grandmother's Milk Bread, 20-oz. loaf . 9c
Ann Page Bread, 20-oz. loaf . 9c
Cracked Wheat, 18-oz. loaf . 9c

Pillsbury's Farina, 14-oz. pkg. 9c
Corned Beef Hash, 2 16-oz. cans 25c Broadcast Brand
Chocolate Hobbies lb. 17c Uneeda Bakers
Ann Page Beans 16-oz. can 5c Plain or With Sauce
Ann Page Beans 3 28-oz. cans 25c Plain or With Sauce
Iona Beans 4 16-oz. cans 17c
Ann Page Ketchup 2 14-oz. bottles 25c
Chili Sauce 12-oz. bottle 15c Quaker Maid
Worthmore Caramels lb. 19c
Warwick Nougatines lb. 19c

Orange Juice 2 12-oz. cans 25c Sun-Dine
Grapefruit Juice 12-oz. can 9c Sun-Dine
Babbitt's Lye can 13c
Veg-All 2 17-oz. cans 25c Mixed Vegetables
Pineapple Juice 18-oz. can 14c Del Monte
Snow Ball Cigarettes 2 pkgs. 25c
Sunsweet Apricots 11-oz. pkg 25c
Carnival Cream Drops lb. 10c

Fresh Fruits and Vegetables
Spinch, fresh green 3 lbs. 15c
Yellow Onions 29c 10-lb. bag when packed
Cauliflower ea. 15c Large, White Heads
Oranges large size, doz. 31c Florida Valencias
Extra Large doz. 33c
Chicory, well bleached lb. 10c
Lettuce 2 heads 15c Solid, Crisp

PRICES APPLY PORTLAND AND VICINITY

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The Labor News
Official Newspaper of the
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THE MAINE STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR
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President—Jean D'Avignon, Rumford
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MARCH, 1936

Foolish Industrial Dictatorship Cause for Strikes

Goodyear Tire Strike Could Have Been Avoided With Use of "Horse-Sense" on Part of Company Officials.

The folly of a management policy which imposes an arbitrary industrial dictatorship on employes is pointedly illustrated in the events leading up to the strike involving around 14,000 workers employed by the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company of Akron, Ohio.

The living which working men and women buy with the wages they are paid for the use of their labor power depends on the length of the time they are employed. Steady employment means steady purchasing power and the ability to keep the stream of necessaries which make up a living flowing with a certain degree of regularity. Intermittent employment disrupts this regularity and requires readjustment of budgets. It is only fair, therefore, when management concludes it is necessary to impose layoffs that the workers should be given adequate notice to this effect.

In the Goodyear plant a large number of tire makers resented layoffs without warning and insisted that they be preceded *with a two or three days' notice.* A sitdown strike emphasized their animosity against this practice.

Without going into details, the factory wide strike which brought thousands of other workers into its area, with mass picketing, injunctions and all the other elements that usually accompany the belligerent refusal of employers to deal fairly with their employes, grew out of this absolutely silly policy of refusing to give the workers adequate notice regarding impending layoffs.

The United States Congress in the Social Security Act passed last year, makes generous provision to assist the States in caring for unfortunates who have lost their physical eyesight. Evidently many industrial managers require some sort of assistance to correct their spiritual myopia when it is a question of establishing personnel policies based on justice.

Deluge of Propaganda Brought Death to AAA

Promises for Cheaper Food Failed When AAA Was Abolished—Prices of Meats and Groceries Higher.

The propagandists of big business who opposed the Agricultural Adjustment Act with voluminous charges that it was responsible for higher prices of food products predicted big slashes in food prices following the action of the Supreme Court in holding the measure unconstitutional.

But, according to the Consumers' Guide, issued by the Consumers' Council of the AAA, merchants are charging more for most groceries now, with the processing taxes scrapped, than they were a year ago when the AAA was in full operation.

Because of its relative cheapness compared with other cuts, chuck roast is the favorite with the average housewife, who is compelled to adjust her budget to a moderate or less than moderate income; the merchants now demand 24.6 cents a pound for it, an increase of 9.1 cents a pound as compared with the price they exacted a year ago. Smoked hams now cost 33.2 cents a pound, an increase of 8.5 cents during the year. Round steak costs 2.7 cents more a pound than a year ago; rib roast, 4 cents more, and pork chops, 2.4 cents more. Breast of lamb has been advanced 2.8 cents a pound during the year and leg of lamb, 0.6 cents.

Although the price of flour is off an infinitesimal 0.2 cents a pound compared with the price last month, the price of bread has been advanced to a higher figure than that which obtained a year ago, the Guide says.

Evidently the high price of food products attributed to the Agricultural Adjustment Act was just another deluge of propaganda shot out by big business to mobilize public opinion against the measure through widespread publicity unwarranted by facts.

Study in Black and White for Anti-New Dealers

Many of These Take for Granted What They Read in Propaganda Through Press and Radio — Show Them These Startling Figures.

It is the writer's experience that those opposed to the New Deal, for the most part, know little about it except what they take for granted from newspaper and radio propaganda, and when pinned down for reasons for their opposition, use these as their authority.

This was demonstrated to the writer's satisfaction recently, while in conversation with a group of business men and executives, who were vicious in their opposition and who intimated they had little use for anyone who attempted to defend either the President or the principles for which he stands.

Well, it happened that among those present were some who experienced pretty "hard sledding" during the years of 1932 and 1933, and who, when asked if they had not benefited considerably from the New Deal, were forced to acknowledge they had, but opposed its furtherance on the ground that it will cost present and future generations too much money.

"But as long as you are getting good returns from your business why should you object to paying your proportionate share of the expense of keeping at least a portion of the army of unemployed at work?" one of the group was asked.

"To hell with those loafers!" he replied. "Let them go out and look for work. This keeping millions fed, clothed and housed is creating a nation of idlers, and why should I and other business men care for them?"

While to attempt to discuss the matter further seemed silly, as his adversary seemed altogether lacking in brains, the writer asked him to go back to 1933, and compare the present with those dark days, and see if he couldn't be convinced as to what had been really accomplished through the New Deal. For instance, he said:

"You will recall that in March, 1933, all banks were closed to stop the avalanche of failures. Today, all national and Federal Reserve member bank deposits are guaranteed. Deposits have risen in three years by $8,000,000,000 in national banks alone.

"Take the stock market: In March, 1933 the total values of stock shares were down to $19,700,000,000. A few days ago they hit a new five-year high, with total value of $51,201,637,902, an increase of more than $31,000,000,000.

"In 1932, farm income was reported at $5,337,000,000. Last year these figures rose to $8,110,000,000.

"According to figures compiled by the American Federation of Labor, 15,166,257 persons were unemployed in January of 1933. In the same month this year, the figure was 12,626,000. Of the latter group, however, 3,725,812 persons had jobs on P. W. A. and W. P. A. projects.

"The Department of Commerce reports a 68 per cent increase in industrial production since March, 1933. Production in December was 103 per cent of the average for 1923-25.

"Retail sales increased from $25,000,000,000 in 1933 to $32,660,000,000 in 1935, and are still going up.

"In 1933 imports totaled $1,168,000,000; by the beginning of this year they were up to $2,047,797,000. In the same period exports mounted from $1,413,000,000 to $2,282,023,000.

"The General Electric Company's income in 1935 was $27,843,000, compared with $19,726,044 in 1934, and the Bethlehem Steel Corporation reported a net income of $4,291,253, as compared with $550,571 in 1934.

"Do you realize what this all meant to you, you and you?" the writer asked the group, as he pointed his finger to all present who had benefited from the New Deal.

"It is time for you to read and listen to something besides the fairy tales launched by highly-paid politicians and propagandists, whose fondest hopes are to bring about the President's defeat through discrediting the New Deal," they were told.

"You don't have to search for records. They are placed before you so that you do not have to take the word of malicious propagandists. What you and others whose minds have evidently been poisoned need, is to realize that you've got to pay your share of the cost of this terrible depression, no matter who is President and what kind of a deal will be settled upon.

"But don't be misled. Think for yourselves," was the parting shot, as the writer left the group.

FILENE STILL APPEALS TO CAPITALISM

With fine courage and unflagging optimism, Edward A. Filene goes about the country pleading with the representatives of capitalism to repent and reform while they still have a chance to attain salvation. Here's his statement, given out at Madison, Wisconsin:

"It must be hammered into the minds of American bankers and industrialists that WAGES MUST GO UP before buying power can increase and prosperity can return.

"America must create its own markets, because no new markets will be opened in Europe for the next 10 or 15 years. Raising wages in this country is the best way of creating our own markets. If wages were raised, consumers in this country would be able to absorb a productivity double that of the 1929 peak.

"I am a capitalist, and I believe in capitalism; but I believe in a reformed capitalism, not that of the present day. One hundred years from now, today's paradox of starvation in the midst of plenty will be inconceivable."

Court Decision a Menace to Liberty

Claim Based on Supreme Court 5-to-3 Decision Dozen Years Ago, Affects New York's Minimum Wage Law.

A standing illustration of the menace to real liberty for workers resulting from anti-social decisions made by the United States Supreme Court is brought out pointedly in the majority opinion of the New York State Court of Appeals holding unconstitutional the Minimum Wage Act for women and minors in that State.

The opinion is very brief. It is based on the five-to-three decision of the U. S. Supreme Court more than a dozen years ago holding the District of Columbia Minimum Wage Law unconstitutional because, according to the Court, women workers affected by it were deprived of liberty of contract with employers in determining remuneration for employment.

The Supreme Court reasoned that since the enfranchisement of women had given them political equality with men their economic handicaps were also thereby automatically abolished, and that, therefore, there was no valid reason for giving them statutory protection against the imposition of less than living wages, which the court held they were free to accept or not accept.

This fiction enunciated by the Supreme Court was accepted without question by the four judges of the New York Appeals Court who invalidated the Minimum Wage Act. But the minority of three judges, in the dissenting opinion written by Judge Lehman, took a different view of liberty of contract and defended the action of the Legislature in authorizing minimum wages for women in the laundry industry as a modification of that liberty thoroughly justified by the abuses which the Act sought to remedy.

"The restriction upon liberty of contract," Judge Lehman said, "is directed against a harmful and perhaps unfair use of that liberty. The constitutional limitations upon legislative power must be enforced by the court, but they may not be extended beyond their fair meaning.

"Liberty of contract, like other forms of liberty, must be zealously guarded against invasion by the State but fear that in the future the State may encroach by unreasonable legislation upon the liberties of the individual cannot justify a present limitation upon the powers of the State not expressed or clearly implicit in the Constitution.

"Liberty may be restrained in reason upon grounds of general welfare. Courts must decide each case upon the facts there presented; upon the facts presented in this case we do not find any ground for saying that the Legislature has acted arbitrarily or transcended the limitations upon its powers."

This opinion by Justice Lehman is in accordance with the view given by William Howard Taft, Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, in a dissenting opinion on the District of Columbia Minimum Wage case. He protested that there was not and never had been such a thing as absolute liberty of contract, and that he did not think minimum wages any more unreasonable a limitation on liberty of contract than maximum-hour laws which the court had already held were constitutional.

It is clear that the decision of the U. S. Supreme Court in the District of Columbia case holding the Minimum Wage Law for women unconstitutional is a continuing barrier to the enactment of this type of protective legislation for women workers in all States. Perhaps if the New York decision is appealed to the Supreme Court it will reverse itself on the matter of minimum wages for women as it reversed itself a number of years ago on the question of maximum hours.

What If It Does Cost More for Shoes or Clothing?

"My Wages Are 50 Per Cent More Than They Were Prior to the NRA; I Feel I Can Afford to Contribute Toward Helping to Keep Others Employed."

The principal opposition to the President and the New Deal is centered on the fact that the administration of WPA, PWA and other Federal, State and municipal projects are too costly; that it is wasteful expenditure, and that it will bring about the mounting of taxes the payment of which will extend to future generations.

No consideration is given to the fact that business in some industries has increased more than 350 per cent, in comparison with three years ago, or when President Roosevelt assumed office, and that concerns who were on the verge of bankruptcy then are now wallowing in wealth.

The fear, or at least that is what propagandists are trying to make us believe, is that continuation of the present governmental policies will be so tremendously expensive that it will be eventually impossible to do business at a profit.

A remark passed by a young worker recently attracted our attention. He was discussing the New Deal and wondered why there is so much opposition expressed by leaders in industry. He had read a statement showing the improvement in general business conditions, compared with 1933, and wasn't quite clear as to why business should oppose the very thing which made possible these improved conditions.

"Of course, I realize business will have to pay its proportionate share of the expense of keeping people to work, but why should they care so long as the present plan makes it possible for them to do business at a profit?" he asked.

"I recall a few years ago, when the concern for whom I work did a very small business, and complained of not having sufficient funds with which to meet their obligations. Now," he continued, "orders are coming faster than we can turn them out. My employers apparently have plenty of money with which to meet their bills, and to all appearances are 'living in clover'.

"Therefore I can't seem to understand why they want to kick over the very thing which made it possible for them to resume their former mode of living.

"Take my case, for instance," he said, "Prior to the NRA, I was working three days a week, and hardly earned more than $9 a week. Since the NRA went into effect, I haven't lost a day's work and have averaged not less than $30 a week. With this improvement in my condition, I feel I would be ungrateful if unwilling to do my bit toward helping others to get jobs.

"I have no property, nor anything tangible on which I would have to pay additional taxes, but I am not without realizing that my portion will have to be paid through the payment of higher prices for food, clothing, rent and other commodities. But why should I care if I have to pay 50 cents more for a pair of shoes, a dollar or two more for a suit of clothes, as long as I can secure full-time employment at my present wage rate. I feel I can well afford it, and can't see why the business man who benefits likewise cannot see it in the same light.

"The trouble with the whole business is a lack of real patriotism. Or perhaps it is politics, or may be greed and avarice. However, they seem bent on defeating the President and the New Deal, and if working people can see things in the way I do, I feel confident the aggregation who are opposing him are going to find their job an extremely difficult one."

This about voices the sentiment of the average wage earner, who has not forgotten the dark days of '30, '31 and '32, and who fully realizes the New Deal was of tremendous help in improving his living standards. Unless we are greatly mistaken, the propagandists are wasting their words on deaf ears, at least as far as intelligent and thinking wage earners are concerned, and this will manifest itself to no small degree when the time comes to say the final word.

"In general, profits of business in the first quarter of this year will be considerably above last year. This fact places on workers the obligation to demand higher wages if the balance between producing and consuming power is ever to be restored."—American Federation of Labor Survey of Business.

People Want World Peace, Says Great British Statesman

"What makes all this so absurd," says Lloyd George, Britain's great statesman, in criticism of increased armament in Europe, Asia and America, "is the fact there is not a single country in Europe today where the mass of the population really wants another war.

"Despite the floods of bombastic oratory that are poured forth, ordinary citizens even in those lands which are thought most likely to plunge into war have a passionate longing for peace. The tragedy is that this very passion for peace is being dishonestly used as the motive power to drive the chariots of war.

"Most people of all lands, without exception, want to live their own lives in quiet enjoyment, till their fields, and maintain homes and families. They have not the least desire to sally forth and kill the young men of the next country.

"Yet the statesmen of these countries are slipping helplessly and inevitably down the slope which will land their people in grim, final disaster.

"Is there intelligence enough among our statesmen to get them to come together around a conference table — where they could be frank and open with each other about the grievances, anxieties and purposes which they desire to satisfy?

"All these troubles could be cleared away without bloodshed. Certainly bloodshed cannot be guaranteed to solve them.

"Instead, Europe, Asia and America are all manufacturing more and more of the arms of wholesale human slaughter."

Noted Priest Exposes Earl Browder in Radio Broadcast

Earl Browder's radio talk over the Columbia network last week, advocating the Communist proposal for an American Farmer-Labor party, was inspired by the Comintern in Moscow last August, according to the Rev. Edmund J. Walsh, dean of the Georgetown University foreign service school, who delivered a lecture on "Christianity, Communism and Democracy."

Rev. Walsh quoted the minutes of the Comintern revolutionary conclave in proof, which Mr. Browder fulfilled to the letter, instructions of this Comintern executive committee. He said:

"On that occasion, the American delegates were instructed to lay less emphasis, for the time being, on Communist revolutionary purposes, but to seek a 'united front' with all the discontented and thus lead them gently, not harshly, into the Communist fold.

President Scored

"Browder departed from Moscow instructions in only one particular, 'attacking President Roosevelt.' Whereas Comrade Demitrov had laid down the general principle that the party should support the President because his defeat might enable the forces now opposing our forces to give us a body blow.

"Browder wisely refrained from telling the workers and farmers that over 4,000,000 of their fellows were deliberately sentenced to a lingering death of starvation for daring even to think the offensive language which he employed yesterday against the President of the United States."

Wage Scale Low

A recent Moscow press cable reported $90 to $114 a year as the normal annual wage of 25 million Soviet workers and this was cited by Dr. Walsh as "supplying the deficiencies" in Browder's address. He declared:

"If nineteen years of Communism can only provide $8.50 a month for the hard, drab drudgery which has accompanied the various five-year plans, the American worker will be pardoned if he prefers even unemployment in America at $28 to $60 a month."

Little Hope for Protection of Poor So. Sharecroppers

House and Senate conferees have agreed on a new farm relief bill. It authorizes the expenditure of $500,000,000 a year to aid agriculture.

An amendment to safeguard consumers, inserted in the House after it had been rejected in the Senate, was preserved. It will probably never be necessary to use it, but should the farmer become unreasonable the Secretary of Agriculture will have power to see that the city man is not gouged too much.

The chief fight was between legislators from the South, and the principal issue, who should get the cotton benefits—the landowners or the sharecroppers?

As the bill went through the Senate it contained nothing to safeguard the sharecroppers.

The plight of these unfortunates has attracted wide attention in recent months. Under the AAA the landowner hogged the benefits received for reducing acreage, and kicked the sharecropper into the road, to starve or go on relief.

Congressman Tarver of Georgia induced the House to adopt an amendment designed to correct this situation. He pointed out that there are 3,223,816 "farm operators" in the South. They are divided as follows: Owners, 1,415,675; managers, 17,358; tenants, 1,790,783. Of these tenants, 776,278 are sharecroppers, and these are the poor devils who "got it in the neck" under the old AAA.

When the bill got back to the Senate, Senator Smith of South Carolina, objected to the Tarver amendment, calling it "a fool thing" and insisting that "the tenant and the sharecropper get it all now."

In conference a compromise was worked out. It isn't as strong as the Tarver amendment, but it does give the Secretary of Agriculture considerable authority to safeguard sharecroppers.

NRA PAY AND HOUR SCALES WERE SCRAPPED BY 1,448 CONCERNS

Federal Survey Finds 405,000 Employes of Concerns Holding Government Contracts Had Wages Reduced or the Hours Increased After United States Supreme Court Held Recovery Act Unconstitutional.

A total of 1,448 firms holding Government contracts and employing 405,000 workers, did not maintain the wage and hour provisions of the NRA codes after the United States Supreme Court declared the National Industrial Recovery Act was unconstitutional, according to a survey by the Federal Contract Division of the NRA.

The figures were submitted to the Department of Labor and Representative Arthur D. Healy, chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, which is planning to hold hearings on the Walsh bill authorizing the inclusion of provisions for maintaining specified wages and hour standards in government contracts.

The investigation covered 3,507 firms holding contracts for government work. A total of 147 firms with 132,699 employes refused to make replies to the Government's questionnaire. Maintenance of code wages and hour schedules was reported for 1,912 concerns employing about 977,000 persons.

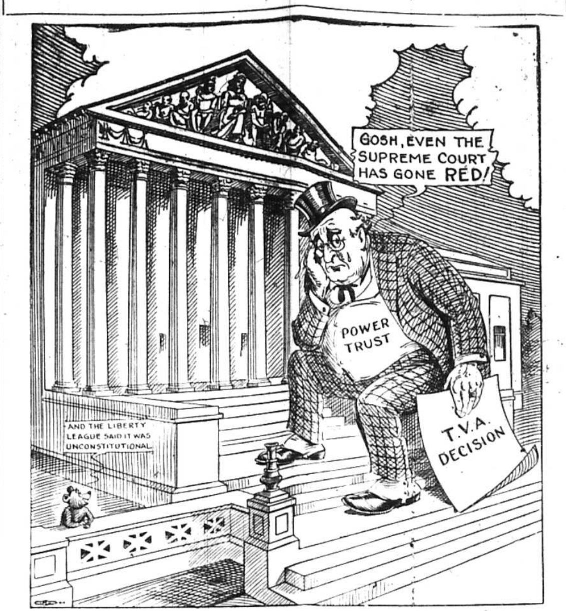
With regard to wages the survey found that 1,480 companies reduced code rates and that 1,821 maintained them. Wage reductions of 10 per cent or more were imposed on their employes by 635 concerns, and cuts of less than 10 per cent were decreed by 845 concerns.

Code hours were increased by 1,309 companies and maintained by 2,127 companies. Increases of 15 per cent or more were made by 505 companies while 804 companies limited the increase to less than 15 per cent.

The figures in the survey were arranged by industries. It was limited to companies with whom the Government had contractual dealings under the NRA.

Wanted---a Friend at Court!

Drawn for LABOR by John M. Baer


GOSH, EVEN THE SUPREME COURT HAS GONE RED!
POWER TRUST
T.V.A. DECISION
AND THE LIBERTY LEAGUE SAID IT WAS UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

Pity the poor (awfully poor) Power Trust! Even the Supreme Court has been obliged to make a ruling against the old reliable electrical monopolist. Sad days, not happy days, are here again, and the end may be worse than the present instance. The TVA Act, permitting the Government to build dams, generate and sell power, has been affirmed by the high court. It came hard, but the law seemed plain. "If the Government has the right to build a dam upon a stream, navigable or otherwise, for potential war purposes and general public welfare, it has the right to sell the power incidentally created by that act." It looks simple.

But, the Power Trust sees, in that decision, a great entering wedge to split asunder its hitherto iron-clad monopoly. Hence, the mourner on the door stops of the Supreme Court building. In the words of the court, the Government still has the right to build dams—and to sell power.

MASSACHUSETTS FEDERATION WILL DECIDE ON LABOR PARTY PLAN BY REFERENDUM ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 29

Boston, Massachusetts, March 14.—Wednesday, May 29th, has been decided upon as the date on which Massachusetts trade unions will determine as to whether or not the State Federation of Labor will sponsor a Labor party at the coming elections.

This action, tak[illegible] the annual convention of the Federation held in Springfield last August, was referred to the executive council and during the week all affiliated Central Labor Unions, Building Trades Councils, local unions and other organizations were notified regarding the referendum vote to determine the future political policy of the State Branch.

Up to now, this policy has been in conformity with the non-partisan policy of the American Federation of Labor, which has been to assist friends and bring about the defeat of Labor's enemies at the polls.

Attention is called in the circular letter received by all affiliated organizations, to the portion which says "to secure equally good results through a third party, we should have to elect at least enough members to hold a balance of power between the two major parties. To secure better results, we should have to elect a majority in the Legislative and Executive branches. Proponents of a Labor party assert their belief that either one or the other can be accomplished.

"If a change to the third party method is desired," the letter states, "it would necessitate an almost complete revision of our State and local constitutions, with a system of financing based upon an increased per capita tax levied upon the members of local unions.

"However, if it is felt a Labor party would produce real benefits to our people, the difficulties of reorganization would, of course, be no valid objection to the purpose."

It was voted to postpone action on balloting until the first meeting in May, when local unions will have taken action, and the delegates will have secured the concensus of opinion of their respective local unions.

Retail Sales Showed 14 Per Cent Gain in 1935 Over 1934

According to the Department of Commerce, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce of the United States, total retail sales are estimated to have gained 14 per cent in 1935 as compared with the previous year of 1934, to reach a grand total of over 32 billion dollars. This figure represents two-thirds of the total retail sales volume of 1929, as reported by the Bureau of Census for that year. This was the first time that an actual count was ever made of the nation's retail business.

Retail food stores, including bottled beer and liquor stores, accounted for about 25 per cent of the total sales. Automotive outlets represented nearly 21 per cent of total sales. These two business groups continue to receive the largest share of the consumers' retail dollar, as in 1929 and during the subsequent year, to the present time.

In order named, restaurants, variety stores, mail order business and drug stores have made the best recoveries toward 1929 levels. On the other hand, jewelry stores show but about 43 per cent of the 1929 sales. Lumber, building, hardware and allied enterprises show but similar gains.

ALARMING INCREASE IN RESUMING THIRD SHIFT PLAN STIRS OFFICIALS OF WOOLEN AND WORSTED FED. TO REAL ACTION

Federation's Executive Board, in Session in Providence Last Saturday, Declared General Breaking Down in Industry is Imminent—Next General Convention to Be Held in Passaic, N. J., April 25 and 26.

(Special to The Labor News)

Providence, R. I., Mar. 14—Full support to all affiliated unions and all unorganized woolen and worsted groups who are forced to take drastic action to maintain standards established under the outlawed NRA, was pledged by the executive committee of the Woolen and Worsted Federation of America after an all-day session here on Saturday.

The council further decided to ask the international executive board of the United Textile Workers of America, at its meeting on March 12, 13 and 14 in New York, to take similar action as a means of preventing a breakdown in the entire industry as the result of exploitation and "cut-throat competition" of manufacturers.

Sitting all day completing a constitution to guide the organization in the future, hearing a detailed report of conditions in the industry from Vice-President Horace A. Riviere and delegates from the six New England States, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, the council decided in the closing hours that *definite steps should be taken immediately to check the tendency* to increase the hours from 40 to 44 and 48 on a single shift, further spread of the stretch-out and generally decrease wages. President Henry Jennings of Manchester, N. H., declared after the meeting:

Lack of Patriotism

"Not only will we level our heaviest guns at those manufacturers who lack a sense of patriotism and human interest, but we will see that those who oppose them will receive the support they are entitled to."

Continuing, he declared: "The council is aware that the third-shift is being introduced in productive departments on a larger scale than at any time since the Supreme Court declared the NRA unconstitutional. This third-shift is the cancer of the woolen and worsted industry, and unless it is eliminated by the employers the workers must take steps to stop it before it not only wrecks the industry but reflects generally on all business.

"With the third-shift comes unfair competition and with unfair competition will come a continual breakdown in the industrial system due to a flooded market, which will find few purchasers to relieve, and idle mills providing no pay envelopes," Mr. Jennings said.

It was decided to hold a convention of all delegates of the Federation, which claims to represent 111,000 textile operatives, in Passaic, N. J., on April 25-26. In addition to taking up the constitution for ratification, the convention will make plans to maintain the highest work standards, Mr. Jennings said.

Market Crash

Addressing the council, Vice-President Riviere said: "Today we find ourselves almost in the same position as we were before the history-making stock market crash of 1929. Stock dividends are again soaring and the wages of the workers are swiftly declining, as they did in the days of 1925, 1926 and the years that preceded the crash.

"I have come here to give you the real picture of the textile industry *so that it might aid you in your important deliberations. I intend to call* a spade a spade and let the chips fall where they may.

"The woolen and worsted industry at the present time is reporting pre-depression business. The reports to the stockholders of the numerous companies show payments of tremendous dividends but they make no mention of the low wages, long hours and stretch-out which have made possible the announced profits.

"This situation can not continue in the woolen and worsted industry under the present high dividend, low wage set-up, and unless the bankers and the industrialists act quickly and cooperate with the Federal government to provide greater purchasing power through higher wages, and relieve unemployment by the elimination of the stretch-out and shorter hours, the whole capitalist system will collapse.

"The textile industry is on the brink of the greatest disaster in the history of the nation. Experts studying the underlying causes of the economic crisis are unanimous in their opinion that it was the low wages and the long hours which flooded the market with goods that there was no purchasing power to buy, was responsible for the deplorable shape in which the textile industry found itself in 1929."

Decreasing Purchasing Power

Continuing, Vice-President Riviere said: "You know as well as I that from 1925 the purchasing power gradually decreased and when the stocks were paying the highest dividends the workers were getting the lowest wages. The textile workers know that when corporations were announcing **the greatest of profits the workers were getting more and better ac**quainted with the sweatshops which are now beginning to appear in alarming numbers.

"The government is seeking the light. Its departments know that only through purchasing power can industry move forward. The recent hearings in Washington on the National Textile Act showed conclusively to the leaders of organized labor that the manufacturers and bankers were indifferent to any program that might benefit the nation as a whole, if national legislation should affect their selfish gains.

"The picture settles down to this: Unless the manufacturers and the bankers show a spirit of cooperation with their workers and the Federal government, the ranks of the unemployed, now set at 11,000,000, will reach at least a 20,000,000 total within the next two years."

In concluding, Vice-President Riviere said: "You officers of the Federation should seize upon every opportunity to encourage the manufacturer to accept the responsibility that is his. This disaster can only be averted by cooperative action on the part of the workers, the employers and the government. All—not one—should do their part for the sake of prosperity."

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SECRETARY OF LABOR PLANS INTENSIVE DRIVE AGAINST DREAD SILICOSIS

It has been announced by Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins that there will be called, in the near future, a national conference of representatives of industry, labor and health commissions of the several States, together with safety experts and engineers. This is for the purpose of devising ways and means to prevent further ravages of the dread disease, silicosis, a lung-destroying ailment peculiar to mining and certain types of indoor manufacturing.

It is stated that there are, at present, about two million workers who are exposed to this health hazard, and that fully one-quarter of that number are already victims of the first inroads of silicosis, in its initial stages. Specifically stated: "Silicosis is a disease in which the normal lung tissue is replaced by fibrous, or scar, tissue due to breathing air containing silica dust." Trades where this hazard particularly exists are enumerated as including abrasive and soap makers, blasters (sand), brickmakers, foundries, glass mixers, granite quarries, slate quarries, tunnelers and vitreous enamelers, and many others.

The Labor Department is to be highly commended for this timely action to prevent, and stamp out, one of the long recognized menaces to industrial workers. One important feature of the coming study is to unite workmen's compensation with this occupational disease, but on such a basis as not to over-handicap industry.

WORK THAT FORMERLY REQUIRED SERVICES OF 32,000 MEN NOW PERFORMED BY 1,600, HOUSE COMMITTEE INFORMED

Facts Concerning New Steel-Making Equipment Cited by A. F. of L., Which Threw More Than 30,000 Men on Scrap Heap—Labor Cost of Making Automobile Doors Reduced From $4.00 in 1929 to 15 Cents in 1935.

Washington, D. C., Mar. 14 (AFL).—The tremendous destruction of work opportunities by machinery in modern industry was pointedly detailed to the Labor Sub-committee of the House of Representatives by S. P. Meadows, Legislative Representative of the American Federation of Labor, in his testimony favoring the resolution introduced by Representative Vincent L. Palmisano of Maryland, authorizing Labor Department to investigate labor-saving devices and their effect on unemployment.

"A careful survey," he said, "should be made in an effort to ascertain correctly the amount of labor displaced in the principal industries of our country by the use of machines, the probable increased production by man of their use, the reduced consumption directly attributable to these non-consuming factors and their relative connection with the present low purchasing power of our common people."

In emphasizing the importance of the proposed survey, Mr. Meadows cited a number of recent developments in which employers have installed new machines capable of displacing thousands of workers.

"The steel mills," he said, "are introducing a machine which permits 1,600 workmen to do the work which now requires 32,000 workmen to do. Instead of 636 sheet and tin and jobbing mills in the country, it would only be necessary to have 12 mills with this machinery.

Auto Workers' Jobs Destroyed

"The 1929 labor cost per door for automobiles is estimated at $4.00; the 1935 door labor cost is only 15 cents per door, accomplished by machine welding two parts together.

"Less than five years ago a well-known auto manufacturer finished eight cylinder motor blocks on a given line-up with 250 men. Today the same line-up finishes 250 motor blocks with 20 per cent more operations using only 19 men. The men were paid on an average of $13.20 per 100 blocks per operation five years ago. Today, by doubling and tripling the number of machines and using tungsten carbid tool types, and also by increasing the number of operations allotted to each operator, the operator has received a cut to $5.20 for the same operation he performed five years ago and performs two or more operations in addition, all of which has been incorporated into his original operation.

Photo-Electric Lathe Displaces Men

"Just recently information has come to us from Moscow of a new photo-electric lathe which can work to a complicated design without human aid, which has been invented by a Russian engineer. The inventor is V. S. Vichman, who works at the Moscow Institute of Machine Tools and Instruments.

"With the aid of a photo-electric cell the lathe can see any drawings that are placed in it; then, it is claimed, **the shaping instruments are automatically adjusted. Vichman's lathe has** been adopted by the Institute, which is now manufacturing others of similar design for use in industry. It is claimed that this machine will displace many employes formerly employed in this kind of work."

Mr Meadow also cited Philip Murray, vice president of the United Mine Workers of America, as having testified before the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee, January 19, 1933, that 100,000 miners have been displaced by technological improvements and the increased use of machinery.

"The American Federation of Labor," Mr Meadows concluded, "favors the resolution but would prefer a thorough investigation by Congress of the number of workmen displaced by the use of machinery in industry."

Labor Board Orders Two Steel Elections

Washington, D. C., Mar. 14 (AFL).—The National Labor Relations Board ordered elections held in the Monessen and Allenpoint plants of the Pittsburgh Steel Company for the purpose of determining whether the employes wish to be represented for collective bargaining purposes by the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers. The election will be held under the direction of Clinton Golden, regional director of the Board at Pittsburgh.

The Wagner-Connery Act authorizes the Board to hold an election in cases where the employer denies the right of a union to act as the bargaining agency or where more than one group of employes claims the right.

Green Refuses Lewis' Offer to Finance Steel Campaign

Prudently, and with an eye out for possible future developments, the American Federation of Labor officially declined the tentative proffer of half a million dollars on the part of the Committee for Industrial Organization. This fund was intended to help finance a campaign for the organization of steel workers. President William Green is understood to have suggested that the offer be referred to the Executive Council, which will meet next May.

Independence of the A. F. of L. is evidently uppermost in the mind of President Green. As he has stated his position, he is now engaged on the budget for the steel campaign as directed by the last convention. As soon as the budget is completed every union in the Federation will be asked to contribute money and organizers. But there will be no conditions or strings attached to such cooperation.

Practically, the A. F. of L. could not have decided otherwise, under the terms and conditions which governed acceptance of the offered grant of $500,000. The industrial unionists had stipulated that one of their basic requirements was that "organization must be along industrial lines." This was contrary to the vote of the last national convention, in which John L. Lewis took forceful issue with President Green over the industrial organization proposal, as opposed to separate craft organizations, at present.

First National Stores

Get THIS WEEKLY HABIT
Jot down these Saving Specials

PURE AND FANCY - ENTIRELY BONELESS
- FINAST CODFISH LB BOX 25c

DEL MONTE - CALIFORNIA - PACKED IN TOMATO SAUCE
- SARDINES 3 15 oz TINS 25c

PACKED IN GLOUCESTER BY GORTON PEW FISHERIES
- GORTON'S CLAM CHOWDER TIN 19c

FINAST - CHILL THOROUGHLY BEFORE SERVING
- GRAPEFRUIT 2 No 2 TINS 25c

A FULL STRENGTH CIDER VINEGAR
- FINAST VINEGAR QUART BOTTLE 13c

FOR BETTER BAKING RESULTS
- RUMFORD BAKING POWDER 12 oz TIN 21c

UNLIKE ORDINARY HASH - GENUINE HOME QUALITY
- PRUDENCE CORNED BEEF HASH 20 oz TIN 21c

STRIKE ANYWHERE - KEEP A SUPPLY ON HAND
- MATCHES OHIO BLUE TIP 6 LGE BXS 25c

Outstanding Special!
PINEAPPLE
FINAST SLICED - the finest grown - vacuum packed - every slice perfect - choice of two convenient sizes.
2 No 2 TINS 33c 2 No 2½ TINS 39c

SALADA TEA Red Label ¼ Lb Pkg 22c ½ Lb Pkg 43c
CAMPBELL'S BEANS With Pork 3 16 oz Tins 17c
CO-OP. PURE MAPLE SYRUP 7½ oz Jar 17c
PARKERHOUSE ROLLS Special 2 Doz 25c
SWANSDOWN CAKE FLOUR 44 oz Pkg 25c
EVAPORATED APRICOTS Lb Bulk 19c

CHEESE BREAD Jean's Special Loaf 12c

Sandwich Spread 2 8 oz Jars 29c
Junket Assorted Flavors 2 Pkgs 21c
Shredded Wheat 2 Pkgs 23c
Honey Raisin Cookies 2 Lbs 23c
Flake Butters N.B.C. Lb Pkg 17c

FIRST NATIONAL STORES

BRUNSWICK

MUSIC, SINGING AND REFRESHMENTS ENJOYED BY MEMBERS OF U. T. W. LOCAL 2225 AT CLOSE OF REGULAR MEETING

More than 150 members of Brunswick U. T. W. of A. Local 2225 enjoyed a pleasant hour following the regular meeting held in the new quarters in Red Men's Hall on Saturday evening, March 7th.

When important matters pertaining to the local union had been disposed of, President Joseph Levesque announced the social committee had prepared a special entertainment and that refreshments would be served.

Vocal and instrumental music, dancing specialties and others were on the program and with the refreshments, all present voted the affair a splendid success.

Principal among the business disposed of at the regular meeting, were reports of shop committees and delegates who represented the local at the Waterville convention of the Maine State Textile Council.

The shop committee's report concerning their conferences with overseers brought out an interesting discussion, during which important information was disclosed, and confidence expressed that the committee's work had resulted in favor of the organization.

Delegates reporting for the Textile Council gave a detailed account of the proceedings, referring in particular to conditions existing in various unionized mills throughout the State. In some instances, the report stated, business was good with the unions enjoying splendid relations with owners, while the opposite was reported in other cases.

President Levesque, Ernest Gagnon and Philip Ouelette were elected to represent the union at the next Textile Council convention, to be held in Waterville.

The local voted to have an auditing committee, whose duty it will be to verify all bills before payment. The committee named is Napoleon Caouette, Zeherin Caron and Ernest Lord. The local also named a shop committee to act on the night shift.

It was voted to hold regular meetings on the first Saturday of each month at Red Men's Hall.

According to Secretary Alfred Richard, Local 2225 is making splendid progress. Meetings are largely attended, members are paying dues promptly, and judging from the enthusiasm manifested by members the future success of the organization is assured.

Following is the full roster of officers of Local 2225: President, Joseph Levesque; vice-president, Joseph Bernier; recording secretary, Alfred Richard; financial secretary, Eugene Ouelette; treasurer, Jean Marie St Pierre; conductor, Ernest Gagne; warden, Napoleon Guinarch.

WOULD HAVE CONGRESS AID N. E. COTTON MILL OWNERS BY SELLING COTTON FOR 7c PER POUND; WOULD STIMULATE WORK

Supporting his claim that thousands of people can be given employment in cotton textile manufacturing plants in New England alone if Government-controlled cotton is sold to the industry at seven cents per pound, Senator Lonergan of Connecticut this week submitted to the Secretary of Agriculture a report showing that there are 388 such plants in New England having a total capitalization of $173,029,422.

Fifty-nine of the mills are in Connecticut, the Senator reported, 193 in Massachusetts, 15 in Maine, 19 in New Hampshire, three in Vermont, and 99 in Rhode Island.

These plants have 10,060,872 spindles and 156,387 looms most of which are now idle as a result of the depression.

While admitting that sale of the Government cotton at seven cents per pound would represent a loss of approximately five cents per pound to the Government as a result of advances made to cotton growers, Senator Lonergan maintained that such a loss would be the most beneficial type of subsidy the Government could undertake. He said it would automatically help industry, relieve unemployment and remove an overhanging surplus that represents a constant threat to future cotton markets.

Senator Lonergan has been informed that the Department of Agriculture favors his plan, in part, although it has not yet indicated what price it favors. The department has suggested limiting such sales to manufacture of a special line of domestic products, he said.

CASE OF LOUIS MARSOLAIS

(Continued from Page 2)

and not to bother him with such trifles.

"This is the position in which the company left me. I have five children, none of whom are working, and a wife, all of whom are dependent upon me. My wife is now, and has been for the past few years, under the doctor's care. My oldest daughter, Mary Louise, aged sixteen, is also under the doctor's care. I am now in danger of losing the roof over the heads of my loved ones because I cannot pay the $13 per month on my home.

"On December 13th, about two weeks after I was discharged, I had 25 cents in the house. I was in a terrible dilemma. My wife had been ordered by the doctor to be on an orange and milk diet. If I would have bought milk and oranges for my wife, I would have had no food for my children. If I bought food for my children, I would have to neglect my sick wife. Fortunately for me, two members of the Upholsterers' Union became aware of my plight and between them gave me enough so that we would not have to go hungry. I have tried to get a job or go on relief.

Company Holds Back Last Pay Check

"I was discharged on the 27th day of November, but the company held back my pay check until December 6th. I called at the relief office on the 29th day of November to see if I could get relief, but I was told by the official that I could not get relief as the company had informed him that there was a check still due me.

"I now take my case up with you, good people. Do you think that I have received fair treatment after having given this company thirteen years of faithful service and helping them to keep up their reputation as the largest company of its kind in the world and adding to its profits as such? I am not taking the stand that it is unfair because I am recording secretary of Local No. 1951 of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor, but because by every standard of decency and fair play, which rightfully exists between employer and employe, regardless of unionism, the company in my case has proven itself vicious, inhuman, with not even an element of justice. In my particular case, the people have a mirror of the insecurity of workers like myself; our extreme helplessness to resist exploitation and injustice from powerful employers like the Kroehler Manufacturing Company with branch plants all over the country. These companies, by merely transferring work from one plant to another, can starve the employes of any plant who may resist injustice. (This was done by the Kroehler company during Christmas week. P. E. Kroehler, the president of the company, bragged about it in a speech to the employes of the Naperville plant.)

"I do not want sympathy from any one. The local unions of the Kankakee plant, through the individual nickels and dimes of the members, are attempting to support me. (A mockery to our American sense of justice and fair play that those who have profited from my 13 years of service have cast me off while those who are still adding to those profits and who may receive the same treatment that I have received, are now supporting me in my hour of need.)

What I Propose to Do!

"What am I going to do about the situation which is now confronting me? This is what I am going to do: I am going to let the people of the United States know what is going on behind the walls of the huge Kroehler plants. After all, what would be more fitting for me, in return for the consideration which my fellow unionists have shown me, than to reveal the unfair labor practices to which they are subjected? To show that the type of speed-up system installed in the Kroehler plants against the wishes of the employes of those plants, is breaking down the skill of the upholstery industry not only in the Kroehler factories, but all over the country, to show that the [illegible] Kroehler plants [illegible] this type of speed-up [illegible] and it impossible to get a job [illegible] where in the country, to show that the Kroehler company employes are paid far less per piece than the general run of piece work of competing manufacturers, to show that the Kroehler company is insisting on working its employes longer hours than is the prevailing custom of decent manufacturers (not only longer hours per day without paying overtime rates, but more days per week), to show that a great percentage of Kroehler furniture is made by novices who cannot get a job in a good shop because the company has destroyed their skill, to show that this company, because of its tremendous wealth and influence in conjunction with the labor practices which I have cited in this pamphlet, is a menace to the industry as a whole, and is a great factor in undermining the standards of prices of merchandise throughout the country, thereby preventing decent employers from paying their employes a decent living wage.

"This is the program I have set out for myself. From time to time I shall issue further indictments of this company, with startling facts to back the above general statements.

"Get your friends as well as yourself to write to P. E. Kroehler, the president of the company, at 666 Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, and let him know what you think of an outfit indulging in these nefarious practices.

"I am sending tens of thousands of these pamphlets through the mails. I am giving the facts as they are. If there is anything here that is untrue, I am subjecting myself to prosecution by the government of the United States.

Young Bachelors at Torrington, Conn., List 10 Musts for Ideal Girl

Members of the Young Bachelors' Club of Torrington, Conn., inspired by women's groups who recently listed eligibility qualifications for men, this week announced their definition of the "ideal girl".

The club, which claims a membership of 74 men between the ages of 18 and 25, listed 10 "musts" or "must nots" for the "ideal girl". She: Must not be a gold digger. Must not be conceited. Must not paint her finger nails, nor look as though she were made for an advertisement. Must not drink or smoke. Must have a pleasant personality and good morals. Must be able to control a budget system. Must be smart. Must be a neat dresser, have a slim figure and be fairly good looking. Must be a good dancer and good in sports. Must care for and appreciate a good home of her own.

With these "musts" and "must nots" carefully observed by the up-to-date girl, what will become of night clubs and other resorts where wine, cigarettes and other things provide the popular pastimes?

Commenting on the Torrington Bachelors' Club's list, an exchange pertinently suggests the formation of more clubs like this one, and that this may be the means for getting the

RULING BY ST. LOUIS COURT, GIVING WOMEN PRIVILEGE OF STANDING AT BAR, CAUSES BARKEEPERS TO GROAN

One Old Timer Said a Flock of Eight or Ten "Hens" Will Drive Away Trade and Are A General Nuisance—Another Said: They Get My Goat", "Give Her a Jigger and She Wants the Whole Bottle"!

A press despatch from St. Louis says the following regarding the attitude of bartenders concerning the new era when women are given legal right to stand at the bar, the same as menfolks do:

Bartenders greeted with groans today a ruling granting women equal standing at the bar—and the right to drink their liquor like gentlemen.

Six months ago, Excise Commissioner Thomas L. Anderson, in the interest of "morality" and amid the applause of bartenders, issued an order forbidding serving of women unless seated at tables.

The order drew general criticism from prominent St. Louis clubwomen and others. It was ruled illegal by Circuit Judge Frank C. O'Malley, who found the excise commissioner had exceeded his authority.

"Charley" Protests

Today the gents who dish it out—and call the feminine "bar-fly" the "worst pest in the liquor business"—couldn't take it. Said Charley, bald pated whiskey sour maestro at Barry's:

"A flock of eight or 10 hens at a bar drives away trade. They sit and gab and take a drink an hour. Besides, they spill cigaret ashes on the bar instead of knocking them off on the floor, where they belong."

"Shorty" Donahue, 69-year-old rhyming bartender-waiter, remarked:
"Women have the right to vote,
But at the bar, they get my goat."

"Women always have caused trouble everywhere," Shorty declared, falling back on prose. "Give one an inch, and she wants a mile—give her a jigger, and she wants the whole bottle."

Other bartenders protest women at the bar as "trouble-makers" and "try to mooch too many drinks."

Down along the levee, Savo Radulovitch had his own solution. He stacked empty beer cases 5 feet high before the bar.

Meantime Excise Commissioner Anderson threatened to carry his battle to the Supreme Court. He asserted Judge O'Malley's ruling "opens the lid of a Pandora's box and puts us a mile down the road toward prohibition."

MISS ZARA duPONT, MEMBER OF ONE OF AMERICA'S BEST KNOWN FAMILIES, IS INTERESTED IN LABOR CONDITIONS

The name of Zara duPont, for many years was the backbone of Woman's Suffrage. For fourteen years, prior to 1920, Miss duPont devoted her all—energy, effort, time and finance—to the cause which gave women equal rights with men. Having traveled throughout all parts of the American Continent gathering statistics on conditions of Labor, Miss duPont finally settled in Cambridge, and interested herself in the cause of the underprivileged classes.

Legislation for the betterment of Labor conditions is being strongly sponsored by Miss duPont and even though she has appeared on many picket lines over a period of years, she experienced her first thrill of joining a Boston picket line by giving the striking Garment Workers moral and financial support. Every day has seen Zara duPont on either Stuart street or Harrison avenue cheering the men and women, guiding them in the art of peaceful picketing.

Miss duPont has been an inspiration to the many thousands of garment workers who are striking for the elimination of sweat-shop conditions and payment of a living wage, and she has inspired other women of equal prominence to stand by, and the day she hopes to be able to sit down quietly with a feeling [illegible] that [illegible]

[illegible] girl to come to her [illegible] home folks for help [illegible] is to blame.

[illegible] every case, to insure a [illegible], it is necessary [illegible] that constitutes a [illegible] the boy or girl to [illegible] they are, and to as[illegible]ty for the outcome [illegible] program, with encouragement and kindly understanding, and a very valuable character training will have been given.

TOWNSEND ADHERANTS

(Continued from Page 3)

[illegible]

[illegible] into a [illegible] of the financial [illegible] and [illegible] the $200 a month pension was to be provided under the Townsend Plan. That point, he declared, had already been thoroughly discussed, and those seeking more detailed information might obtain it by consulting the literature of the organization. Better still, he said, the inquirer should attend the Townsend meetings and there learn from the members all that one desired to know regarding such details. The main essential was that the Townsend Plan was going ahead fast, here and all throughout the country.

The Plan

"How did the Townsend Plan come into existence? What was the thought behind it?" The idea was suggested to Dr. Townsend of California, who day after day had witnessed starving men and women rummaging in garbage cans in search of such refuse as might be salvaged for food. That such a state of affairs should exist in this land of abundance revolted the observer. Out of the firm conviction that a social system which could permit such abuses must be reformed, the idea was launched.

The first meeting was attended by about 35 members. Today, Townsend Plan Clubs throughout the country number their combined tens of thousands of members. At once, the speaker took the aggressive, carrying the fight to his critics and opponents, one and all. Nobody escaped. The press, in the main, was called disparaging and skeptical. Fun was poked at "Al" Smith and his brown derby, now discarded since his association with the bon-ton duPonts. The Liberty League was likened to a duPont product, cellophane—something to be easily seen through.

The audience was reminded that great inventions, changes and discoveries had come in the face of confident-predicted failure, or a stressing of the factor of impossibility. In this category were enumerated some of the major developments in inventive genius in the last 40 or 50 years. Included among these was the automobile, the radio, electrical inventions, airships and the like. In every case, wiseacres of the press had discouraged the idea, or denied its validity. Small wonder that the Townsend Plan had to run the same course of misunderstanding and opposition, said the speaker.

Fantastic and Cock-Eyed

Judge Carabine dwelt upon the fact that some newspapers and verbal critics had stigmatized the plan as "fantastic and cock-eyed". Such critics, he said, should consider such things as destroying food and subsistence to produce an artificial scarcity, such as wheat, corn, hogs and cotton. Was it not fantastic to cause to be destroyed the very things for lack of which people were then suffering? He recommended a study of this fact to those critics who were denouncing the Townsend Plan as being fantastic. The very fact that this country had afterwards been obliged to import the very kind of [illegible] which had been purposely [illegible] [illegible] many of those gentry ought to be in jail."

[illegible]

Why No Bond Issue

It [illegible] first considered for starting off the Townsend Plan, the speaker said that it was then thought well to ask aid of the Government. Later on, it appeared better to have the program finance itself without entailing a bond issue. With a bond issue out of the picture, the big bankers saw their chance lost and began to oppose the plan. Of the two means for financing the plan, the transaction tax was decided upon in order to do away with bond issues and bankers' profits.

Speaking of the rapid and strong growth of the organization the speaker said that from a small beginning, Springfield had now grown to a membership of ten thousand, with a Congressional district total of twice that amount. In Vermont, where conservatism was taken as a matter of course, Townsend Clubs were gaining rapid headway. Vermont was [illegible] strongly for the plan. One village alone, St Johnsbury, had 1100 club [illegible] out of 1400 voters.

The speaker scoffed at the fetish of rugged individualism and the dog-eat-dog policy of economic strife. The abundant resources of the nation affording sufficient for all. The trouble lay in lack of sufficient purchasing power and consequent non-distribution.

He warned of certain catastrophe unless the proper economic balance were restored, declaring that in his opinion "This is the last time that the people will ask for a real new deal in a peaceful manner."

He also said that thousands of Townsendites were intimidated from joining the organization from fear of what he called "wooden-headed bosses." He attributed such wooden-headedness to the fact that so much [illegible] magazine stuff was being [illegible].

Labor Warned of New Communist Activities

Washington, D. C., Mar. 7 (AFL). The International Federation of Trade Unions [illegible] headquarters in [illegible] that there [illegible] steady increase [illegible] the trade unions and that the number of committees, which are called "neutral", but which are in reality organizations of a Communist tendency, is steadily on the upgrade.

The I. F. T. U. says that the Communist method of misleading the workers belonging to bona fide labor organizations is simple. It goes on to explain, saying:

"These committees appeal to all working class organizations without exception for their participation in demonstrations, of which the frequency is in indirect proportion to the actual results and which aim at freeing the victims of Fascism, defending (?) them before the courts of dictatorship countries, bringing down the Fascist dictators, overcoming the capitalist offensive and once and for all to do away with the dangers of imperialist war.

"The two Communistic publications have recently appeared to which we would draw the particular attention of our affiliated organizations and the labor press in general. These are the 'Informationsdienst der freien Gewerkschaftsgruppen Deutschlands' (Information Service of the Free Trade Unionist Groups of Germany), which is the same kind of thing as the 'International Trade Union Press Correspondence' which now appears in a new format. Both these publications are of Communist origin and neither of them has any connection at all with those trade union groups which have arisen in Germany out of the free trade unions which existed before Hitler came into power.'

"The sole aim of the choice of titles for both these Communist publications is to deceive working class organizations as to their real Communist character. This Communist propaganda moreover seems to be intended for readers outside Germany, for the chances of taking in the German workers by this method are really too slight."

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RELIABILITY—We believe that you are more interested in beauty, comfort, service and value in furniture than in exaggerated claims of sensational prices which cannot be backed up.

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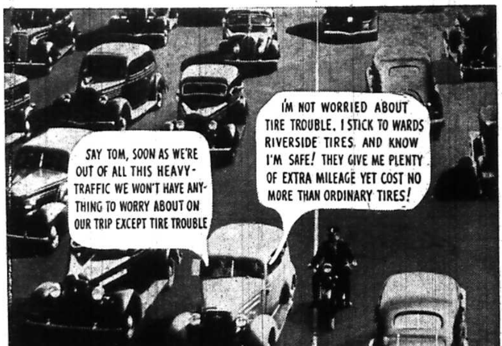
SAY TOM, SOON AS WE'RE OUT OF ALL THIS HEAVY-TRAFFIC WE WON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO WORRY ABOUT ON OUR TRIP EXCEPT TIRE TROUBLE
I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT TIRE TROUBLE. I STICK TO WARDS RIVERSIDE TIRES, AND KNOW I'M SAFE! THEY GIVE ME PLENTY OF EXTRA MILEAGE YET COST NO MORE THAN ORDINARY TIRES!

Best First Quality Tires On the Road
Up to 28% More Mileage Test-Proved!
RIVERSIDE TIRES!
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Get Wards Liberal Allowance for Your Old Tires!

Actual tests show that Riversides give up to 28% more mileage than other first-quality tires! That means you get up to one free mile in every five you drive! That means even greater savings when you consider that Wards regular prices on Riversides are as low as any first quality tires and considerably LOWER than most! And remember too that the same extra quality that gives you Riversides' greater mileage and savings gives you greater safety too!

WRITTEN GUARANTEE AGAINST EVERYTHING
● Blowouts ● Bruises
● Faulty Brakes ● Cuts
● Under Inflation ● Collision
● Wheels Out of Alignment
EVERYTHING that can happen to a tire in service WITHOUT LIMIT as to number of months or miles. The strongest written guarantee ever offered!

MONTGOMERY WARD
PORTLAND — LEWISTON — WATERVILLE

BANGOR

CENTRAL LABOR UNION ADOPTS RESOLUTIONS CONDEMNING SCHOOL BOARD FOR ACTION IN REDUCING WAGES AND OTHER CHANGES

Economy measures, as instituted by the Bangor school authorities, such as eliminating the first-year kindergartens and reducing the salaries of the teachers, is opposed by the Bangor Central Labor Union. Richard W. Gustin, secretary, affirms this action on the part of that body. This sentiment was embodied in a resolution adopted at a recent meeting of the union, which is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. It reads as follows:

WHEREAS, The School Board has brought to the attention of the citizens of Bangor the need and intent to reduce wages, school weeks, and the elimination of the first year kindergarten under the guise of retrenchment, and

WHEREAS, This retrenchment will in many instances result in curtailment of the educational opportunities, by the enlargement of classes, by the shortening of the school year, by limiting supplies, by salary reductions in the form of voluntary contributions, or suspension of salaries or outright cuts; Therefore be it

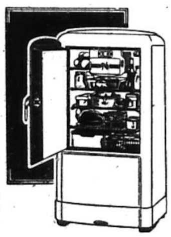
RESOLVED, That while we are ever mindful of the need of economy and the fullest utilization of present facilities, we are unalterably opposed to any retrenchment that means the limitation of educational standards in whatever form they may appear, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Central Labor Union of Bangor, branch of the American Federation of Labor, and its affiliated locals go on record as being opposed to any such action as herein stated; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the School Board, City Council, Newspapers, Radio Stations, Parent-Teacher Associations and the Teachers' Club.

Bangor Central Labor Union,
R. W. GUSTIN, Secretary.

NOW FOR THE FIRST TIME



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Progress is Shown by Organizations in the Queen City

While in Bangor last week, your correspondent spent a pleasant evening at the home of Richard W. Gustin, treasurer of the Maine State Federation of Labor, during which matters pertinent to the progress being made towards getting every organization in this section as active participating members of the Bangor Central Labor Union, were discussed.

Brother Gustin, who was just recovering from a severe cold which kept him confined at his home for several days, is very enthusiastic over the new quarters of the Central body recently opened in Foresters' Hall at Post Office Square and states that the facilities provided for meetings and for small gatherings should lead to its procurement as permanent rooms for the organization.

The increase in membership in many of the organizations in this district is reflected by the attendance at meetings, the new members especially demonstrating interest in all proceedings and evincing a desire to become familiar with the duties incidental to their membership in a union.

Members are urged to patronize clothing stores in Bangor which feature union-made garments. There is no other city in Maine where such a wide variety of clothes bearing the Union Label can be procured.

Stopping at the new tavern next to the hotel on Exchange street, where your correspondent stayed during his visit to Bangor, he was pleasantly surprised to meet "Jack" Fitzpatrick, formerly of Worcester, Mass., who is employed there as master of ceremonies. This also being the home town of the writer, reminiscences were in order. Mr. Fitzpatrick is also a singer of note and he demonstrated that he still possesses a fine voice when he participated in the program of entertainment offered at this tavern. His sister, the former Margaret Fitzpatrick, who is now married, was well known some 15 to 20 years ago as an amateur and professional dancer. Her brother is also a well known [illegible].

While the writer made efforts to get in touch with "Chet" Shepherd and [illegible] labor leaders of the C. [illegible] the shortness of his stay because of storm conditions and threat [illegible] that occurred the next day made it impossible to meet them. [illegible] on the next trip, these with [illegible] as well as other friends of [illegible] Bangor.

Alton C. Hawkes Succeeds Jardine as Sears' Bangor Manager

Alton C. Hawkes has succeeded Alexander J. Jardine as manager of Sears' Bangor Retail Store. Coming at this time, during the company's

ALTON C. HAWKES

Golden Jubilee celebration, Mr. Hawkes feels that he will have an unusual opportunity to serve Sears' many friends and customers in Eastern Maine.

As a touring superintendent for the company, Mr. Hawkes spent ten weeks in Bangor during the Summer of 1934. He was greatly impressed by Bangor and the surrounding territory and made an intensive study of the merchandising conditions. With this experience as a background, he has confidence that he will be able to serve the needs of the market with a thorough understanding of the problems involved. He has expressed his intention of continuing Sears' policy of friendly cooperation with the various locals and civic organizations.

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GARDINER, MAINE

PRESENT ECONOMIC CONDITIONS MAKE NECESSARY FIGHTING BLOOD AMONG WORKERS, SAYS FEDERATION PRESIDENT

Usurpation of Power by Few Influential People Through Court Decisions, Calls for Vigorous Action. Quotes Jefferson and Lincoln, Who Expressed Fear Lest Working People Would Be Sufferers as Result of Power Vested in Few People.

Mexico, Me., Feb. 14th.

Editor, The Labor News

"That there may for ever be government by the people, for the people."

Where, may I ask, in the name of all that stands for freedom, justice and "the peaceful pursuit of happiness," can one turn to find a candidate for the presidency of the party founded by the "Great Commoner" who will pledge himself to the upkeep of this, the first principle of the party? Or for that matter, any of the old standpat, do-nothing group, regardless of party lines?

These persons who call themselves the leaders of this party, founded upon the Sacrament of Freedom and Equal Rights—"That all men shall be free"—prate and prattle of restoring Rugged Individualism. A thing dedicated to the freedom to exploit women and children, freedom to cut wages and lengthen hours of employment, freedom to fix prices on farm products, and freedom to ruthlessly rob the rest of us. Freedom to ask, as did that lawyer, before the District of Columbia Supreme Court, about the little NRA in the Guffey Act. "It may be tragic that women were forced to eat from garbage cans, during a strike in Harlan County in 1922, but what has that to do with the Constitution, what relation does this have to the right of the government to impose this unconstitutional measure upon this industry?"

Shades of Marie Antoinette. And Associate Justice Roberts, spokesman for the stand-patters within the Supreme Court, spoken of as a possible candidate for the Presidency under the Republican banner.

Away with any party which holds that people must be no longer free, that these people must be slaves to satisfy an inadequate law. Away also with the law that says so, or the man who cries of the sacredness of the Constitution; **it has been amended so many times already to aid big business** that once for the people will not do any harm (to the people or the Constitution.

Thomas Jefferson's View

Back in 1801, when Thomas Jefferson was elected President, the question of the Supreme Court's rights were fought about. In this case, it was about an insignificant case involving a Justice of the Peace. Jefferson, a strong believer in State Rights, warned the people of the Nation to keep an eye on the Court. He called them "sappers and miners", and accused them of undermining our democratic institutions with the view to destroying them. Considering the AAA and NIRA, Jefferson — great statesman that he was, was a better fortune teller.

Said Justice Roberts; "Powers not granted are prohibited," and thereby ruled that, because no such powers had been provided, specifically, over agricultural products, Congress could not legislate a law to provide such aid and assistance to a super-exploited class of people. Now, remembering Thomas Jefferson's warning, and recalling history to tell us that the men framing the Constitution repeatedly refused every attempt made to grant the Court powers to nullify the Acts of Congress, if Justice Roberts or any one else (Alfred "Top Hat" Smith, please communicate) who can, will just kindly show we poor ignorant workers where in the Constitution the Supreme Court is authorized to declare an Act of Congress invalid and unconstitutional, I will be very pleased.

From the time of Jefferson until that mess of the Dred Scott case, the Courts had remembered their lesson, 60 years. Again they pulled in their horns and were very careful until the administration of Theodore Roosevelt, when the first real efforts were made to curb special privilege. Then the turn came—from that day on it has been one grab after another. Always in the case where Labor and labor conditions were concerned, they steadfastly voted NO. Time and again, at every opportunity, they have cast aside the right of the worker to unite with his fellows for collective bargaining. The Courts today have taken the power from the Congress and the people, and vested those rights within themselves. They have made laws to protect the monied interests at our expense.

There remains much [illegible] more to do. Two roads [illegible] open to us. We can either [illegible] some method, get [illegible] against the Court, [illegible] within the provisions of the [illegible] tion, or begin the fight to [illegible] an amendment comparable to the [illegible] quit amendment, if not that [illegible] ment. The question is not so much one for lengthy debate [illegible] felt the effects of the action of the Courts, you all must have some idea of its significance to you and your fellow workers. This matter can and must be decided at once. [illegible] among the members of your local, central body, department, Federation and individual selves. It must be, for you are the political parties of this nation. You, thanks again to Thomas Jefferson, have the ballot to make the battle. No candidate for office will agree to your needs unless you voice your demands and make it clear that you intend to get them. Every day you let this all too important question slip up in your meetings, [illegible] one more day closer you and your fellow workers are to the garbage can.

[illegible] friends very carefully [illegible]. Fight for your [illegible] your demands before [illegible] Congressmen, talk it over with your friends, have them join the fight and always remember "The fellow who yells loudest is heard." Let's [illegible].

Just to [illegible] right, let me quote Abraham Lincoln, the First Republican. Compare him with succeeding Presidents. You may see then how this great Liberator felt:

Aim of Government

"Our government was not established that one man might do with himself as he pleases and with another man, too. I say that, whereas God Almighty has given every man one mouth to feed, and one pair of hands adapted to furnish food for that mouth, if anything can be proved to be the will of Heaven, it is proved by this fact, that that mouth is to be fed by those hands, without being interfered with by any other man, who has also his mouth to feed, and his hands to labor with.

I hold if the Almighty had ever made a set of men that should do all the eating and none of the work, he would have made them with mouths only and no hands, and if He had ever made another class, that He intended should do all of the work and none of the eating, he would have made them without mouths and with all hands."

With the story of Germany, Austria, Italy and Russia before you, a steadfast refusal of the money interests and a horse and buggy Court immediately surrounding you, it is your choice: fight like men, or end in the garbage can.

JEAN D'AVIGNON, Pres.
Maine State Federation of Labor

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STATE OF MAINE'S HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAM RECEIVES STRONG BACKING BY MOTORISTS AND GENERAL PUBLIC

The motto of the State of Maine is "Dirigo", meaning "I Lead." While this literally may not be exactly true in the establishing of a Highway Safety program, nevertheless it can be said that the State of Maine is massing a determined and concerted effort at the present time to reduce the alarming frequency of deaths resulting from motor vehicle accidents.

LEWIS O. BARROWS
Secretary of State

Alarmed by the record that is being written, not only in this state but in the nation, it is the intention of the Department of Motor Vehicles, a division of the office of Secretary of State, to sponsor and to carry on the program which has been recently adopted by the Committee on Highway Safety.

Commenting on this, Secretary of State Lewis O. Barrows says:

"We propose to utilize every possible medium to constantly and repeatedly present the appeal to the motorists of this state and to stress upon all citizens as well the necessity of observance of traffic regulations, to the end that Maine may take the place which it deserves as a safe and sane vacationland at least.

Intensive Safety Campaign

"An intensive campaign under the personal direction of Walter J. Brennan will be carried on for at least a year and during that period of time we believe it will be possible, as the result of surveys which will be completed, to know a great deal more about the causes of motor vehicle accidents in this state and what, if anything, can be done along engineering lines to promote greater safety.

"One of the important features which has been considered and approved is the creation of an Observer System, whereby appointments will be made to the staff of the Secretary of State to report some of the more common and flagrant motor vehicle violations. Such Observers will have no police authority and will receive no compensation, other than the personal satisfaction in having done their part to promote greater safety and thus be the means of saving lives.

"It is not the technical, minor violations which we are so much interested in at present, as it is the instances of dangerous or reckless driving habits which, if allowed to continue without any attention, may be the cause of fatal accidents.

"All violations reported will be followed up by a courteous letter from the Department, telling of the nature of the violation and where it occurred and asking for a voluntary pledge that it will not be repeated. In no instance will the Observer be expected to sign any warrant or to appear in court.

Cooperation Most Essential

"It is proposed to try and enlist the cooperation of the driver or operator of the vehicle, rather than to resort to a drastic penalty. Should the Department receive a series of complaints from various Observers of the same operator for the same offense, it would undoubtedly indicate the necessity of appearance of the operator in court, possibly, or an examination by one of the motor vehicle inspectors or a member of the State Police, because we regard the operation of a motor vehicle on the highways of this state as a privilege and not a right.

"In other words, such an operator might be required to demonstrate whether or not he was a proper person to be allowed to operate a motor vehicle.

"We confidently hope that by pursuing this method we may very appreciably lessen the number of motor vehicle accidents that are caused in so many instances by reckless or dangerous driving.

"We have the assurance of a very substantial increase in the number of State Highway Police. In fact, it might be stated that every possible effort will be made to effect a very substantial decrease in deaths resulting from highway accidents.

"In this connection the cooperation of the press is very gratefully acknowledged in their efforts to arouse public support."

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We Cater to the Wants of
UNION MEMBERS
and Their Families

New Spring Styles In Furniture at Atherton's Stores

Atherton's three furniture stores in Maine, located in Lewiston, Portland and Waterville, are now having their annual Spring showings of the very latest home equipment in the line of furniture and furnishings.

Quality has always been stressed by this company, whose reputation for square dealing is well known to thousands of working people throughout the State, who for many years have been among the regular patrons of this firm.

Those who have made purchases at any store of Atherton's, whether a small article or a complete home outfit, know that it pays to buy quality merchandise, not only because such home equipment is more lasting, style-right, and a constant source of enjoyment, but also because this firm sell such things at no higher price than inferior merchandise. This is made possible by the combined buying power of seven stores in New England.

New Crosley Electric Refrigerators Shown at Talbot & Brooks

The new 1936 models of Crosley electric refrigerators, which are now being displayed by authorized dealers throughout the State, are distributed in Maine by Talbot, Brooks & Ayer, well known wholesale house with headquarters in Portland.

"Crosley refrigerators excel not only in their artistic design and features that make ease of operation of strong appeal to housewives, but in providing more room for the various foods including fruits and vegetables. In addition, this line is so constructed that the utmost protection is given to foods so that their health-sustaining qualities can be best retained at the proper temperature.

There is a Crosley electric refrigerator distributor in every city of the Pine Tree State, as well as in the larger towns.

Sears

GOLDEN JUBILEE

On the event of our Fiftieth Anniversary we look back on the years with gratitude to our friends whose support and good will have made our growth possible. A growth which we attribute to the policy established by Richard Sears: "Treat the Customer as you would like to be treated yourself were you in his place." As we have grown the numbers of our friends have multiplied. We merely point to this fact as an assurance that during our Golden Jubilee as always, you can buy at Sears with perfect confidence—that it's safe to save at Sears.

SEARS, ROEBUCK AND CO.
BANGOR, MAINE

PITTSFIELD

Hon. Clyde Smith Urges Shorter Hours for Working People

Union Hall was the scene of an interesting meeting recently, when Lester C. Cowan, president of U. T. W. of A. Local 2259, presented to the audience, as chairman, Albert Finnimore of Skowhegan. Mr. Finnimore is an ex-president of the Maine Textile Council and well known throughout the state. The textile industry is one in which Maine has a large and growing interest and the gathering looked for and received, a very interesting and informative address by the several speakers.

Prominent among the speakers was the Hon. Clyde H. Smith of Skowhegan, Republican candidate for Governor. His topic was that of old age pensions and labor. He gave it as his conviction that the present unbalance in the economic field would not be corrected until the hours of labor were shortened, so as to take up the slack of unemployment. This is a principle with which the audience found itself in general accord.

Other speakers were James George, of Waterville, recording secretary of the Maine Textile Council, who dwelt on the benefits of unionization; Bernard Ezhaya, also of Waterville, who gave a history of the national growth of unions; and George Jabar, organizer for the United Textile Workers of America, who explained the advantages of organized labor to the purchasing citizens of the community.

The meeting was largely attended, and much interest was manifested in all the subjects so ably discussed by the speakers.

Pittsfield Local 2259 has made splendid progress, with members attending strictly to their duties, and especially alert for the future success of their organization.

Washington's Birthday Party

Washington's Birthday was observed by Local 2259 with a card party, followed by a special program of entertainment. A very pleasant evening was spent, prizes being given for the highest and lowest scores. Refreshments were served, followed by a dance with good attendance.

Music was furnished by the Rhythm Ramblers of Pittsfield.

Women's 8-Hour Bill Killed in Virginia

Senator Benjamin Muse, of Petersburg, W. Va., moved that the Senate Committee on General Laws be discharged from further consideration of the eight-hour work-day bill for women. The committee killed the measure, which had already passed the House of Representatives.

New York Employers Fight Unemployment Insurance Law

Troy, N. Y., Mar. 4 (AFL).—Counsel for Associated Industries, Inc., which represents many large industrial interests, petitioned Supreme Court Justice Pierce H. Russell, sitting in special term here, to issue an injunction restraining New York State from enforcing the Unemployment Insurance Act passed by the Legislature last year. Funds for the insurance are secured by a tax on payrolls.

The petition based its claim of unconstitutionality on the ground that the act is "discriminatory and deprives the employer of property without due process of law," the property evidently meaning the amount of the payroll assessment. Legal representatives of the State defended the law "as an economic necessity."

Senator O'Mahoney Advocates National Incorporation Law

Senator Joseph C. O'Mahoney of Wyoming, recently delivered a radio address on the subject of "National Charters for National Commerce." Its many strong points were so appealing to the citizens at this time of economic stress that they are given here, in part.

In a word, the baneful influence of combined monopoly and technological improvement had resulted in creating a vast scrap heap of unemployed labor. The steady passing of control of industry into fewer and fewer hands, is one of the marked developments of the country's industrial life, during the last generation. It has at last come to an intensified climax in the present national unemployment problem. Says Senator O'Mahoney:

"In 1929, at the beginning of the depression, six million American families, not individuals, had incomes of less than a thousand dollars a year. On the other hand, in 1932 a little less than 400,000 corporations reported total assets of more than 280 billion dollars (not millions). There is thus represented at opposite ends of the scale, appalling poverty and colossal wealth.

"The problem growing out of the expansion of corporate power is nothing new, but has been before the Congress, in one form or another, for 50 years. The people are opposed to monopoly. They now that it restricts trade, reduces employment, cuts wages and unduly advances prices. Concentrated power has produced these extremes of poverty and wealth. This progressive concentration of wealth should cease. A national incorporation law will check this tendency, a bill that will be a guarantee of the rights of labor."

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APPLICATION OF 30-HOUR WEEK LAW WOULD NOT ADD MORE THAN FIVE PER CENT ON PRODUCTION COSTS

So Said Congressman Connery When Discussing Black-Connery 30-Hour Bill at Worcester Meeting—He Then Takes Rap at Liberty League and Severely Criticises Action of Big Men Who Turned Against the President After Having Benefited From New Deal.

Worcester, Massachusetts, Mar. 10. "If the decisions of the United States Supreme Court could be used against us, as in the Appalachian Coal Mine case and in the Bedford Stone Quarry case, they can be used for us in the Wagner-Connery Labor Disputes Act and the proposed 30-Hour Work Week bill."

Thus said Congressman William P. Connery, Jr., from the platform of the People's Forum at Eagles Hall last Monday evening, during the course of his long and illustrative address. The point made was that years ago the United States Supreme Court had made a certain ruling, with regard to what it claimed was interstate commerce, and that the present instance afforded labor an opportunity to make use of those same decisions, in sustaining the validity of the Wagner-Connery Act and related labor legislation. It is the old principle of fighting fire with fire—indeed the only remedy in the case of an otherwise uncontrollable conflagration.

The Congressman was in fine fettle. Active, virile, with every evidence of physical energy and mental astuteness, he must have been "sad news" to the proponents of all that is backward and reactionary! On the other hand, a legislator of his type does a tremendous lot to revive the spirits and encourage the hearts of those who toil and look for a better future—or who would toil—but have not been able to find work—in these sadly disjointed times.

In a preliminary address over the radio, just prior to his platform speech, Congressman Connery dwelt strongly upon the progressive displacement of human labor through technological advancement.

Reduced to plain English, this means — machines are doing away with human labor on an ever increasing scale. To take care of these displaced masses is the great question of the day. Shorter work-days and shorter work-weeks are the first logical answer to that problem.

But, at Eagles' Hall, the Congressman was a "whole team"—all by himself. This was the general impression that the audience must have had of William P. Connery of Lynn, chairman of the House Labor Committee of Congress. Forceful and eloquent, clinching his arguments with many witty allusions throughout, the Congressman easily carried his audience along with him during his extended address.

Explains Labor Relations Act

Under this legislation, employers are required to bargain collectively with their employes. Moreover, unfair practices as specified under the law, are forbidden. These include such acts as interfering with the right of employes to join a union; discharging employes for having joined any union, interfering with employes desiring to form a union of their own selection; financing any union, wholly or partially. Court action and penalties follow violations of the provisions of the law.

The Black-Connery 30-Hour Week Bill would apply to all interstate commerce business. For the general supervision of this law and its practical operation, a board of three members, to be nominated by the President, would be formed. Such members would include the Secretary of Labor, ex-officio; one representative of industry, and one spokesman for labor. This board, in turn, would have authority to form regional boards, by territorial districts, including States or parts of a State, according as the population figures might suggest. The work-week would be limited to six hours a day, or 30 hours for five days, as a total. On occasions where emergencies, public or private, might demand temporary extension of time, such concessions might be granted, in the discretion of the local, or State, regional board.

Queried as to the added cost of the shorter work-week, that is, 30 hours as against 40 hours, the speaker said that this matter had been made the subject of an extended statistical research. Not more than five per cent would be added to the present production costs, and this would be largely offset, if not wiped out, by the increased volume of business. If adopted, said the Congressman, the 30-hour work week would put to work some five or six million men who are now unable to find employment, and the burden of maintaining whom is falling upon city, State and national government. This cannot indefinitely continue, he warned his hearers.

His Personal Philosophy on Labor Problems

About 40 years ago, said the speaker, Pope Pius XI wrote an encyclical, which Pope Leo the XIII afterwards publicly substantiated. In that great document, which had for its basis the insistence upon the fundamental principles of humanity, the right of the worker to strike for his betterment, was dwelt upon. In substance, it declared:

"The right to strike is not a right granted by any city, state or nation; it is a divine right which comes from God."

The matter of "proper wage" was next dwelt upon. What is a "proper wage"? It is not merely the ability to have enough for a bare living; it meant more than that. A proper wage was one that would allow the worker to have some of the luxuries of this life—some of the things which his own toil and effort had helped to produce.

Liberty Leaguers and Conventions

The speaker took a rap at the Liberty League, saying that in time of distress the big men of the country cried aloud for aid. When the emergency had been passed, they clamoured against government control of business!

"But I am no rubber-stamp Congressman!" declared Mr. Connery. "When I found that I could not conscientiously support a bill, I did not vote for it. I told President Roosevelt, on more than one occasion, that while I admired him and would support him, I could not vote against my own convictions. His answer was: 'That is all right with me, Mr. Connery!'

"Roosevelt," he continued, "is a kind-hearted man. He always shows sympathy for the under-dog in the struggle of life. He has tried to do the best that he could. I love him for that. He has the interest of the common people at heart. But still, I must think for myself. I cannot be a rubber-stamp Congressman, and I will not."

Patriotism and Hunger

Speaking of the fact that he, himself, had served with the army in France, he declared that no man could challenge his patriotism. Nevertheless, when men have tramped the streets all day and go home at night to find their families hungry, it is a severe strain upon their patriotism. "Why should they starve, they and their helpless families, when they can pick up a newspaper and read of the joyful pastimes being indulged in by millionaires at Miami and other pleasure resorts in the Winter time? Why should anybody starve in the midst of plenty?

CONG. WILLIAM P. CONNERY, JR.

"Out of that unjust condition are the seeds of revolution sown in the minds of these distressed men. If society, or industry, will not do them justice, they will take justice into their own hands! Who can blame them? It was the senseless Bourbons who brought on the French Revolution, by their exactions practiced upon the poor. Everybody knows the result. We wish to avoid anything like that in this country. But I have warned the American Bourbons that they, and not so-called radicals, are the ones who are inciting the citizenry to extremes by their continued injustice to the masses."

Platforms and Conventions

Reverting to the criticism of President Roosevelt "for not adhering to the Democratic party platform", the Congressman gave a laughable description of what really transpires at a party convention. The meeting of the resolutions committee takes place in a big hotel, and there the process of "bargain and swap" goes merrily on! It is a contest between conflicting interests of different parts of the country. In the last convention, he said, everybody seemed to have been taken care of—except the veteran. He was given—the privilege of being a patriot! The other interests got theirs. As for the candidate, himself, the platform was handed to him. He had to "take it or leave it". He had no hand in its formation. Yet, it was called "his" platform!

Employers Not Bound to Agree to Wage Scales, But to Discuss Them

Against the claim made by many manufacturers and employers that "the government was attempting to run their business," the speaker said that while collective bargaining was mandatory under the law, it meant that discussion, not enforcement, of terms and agreements was intended. Actual contracts were not to be exacted as a necessary condition of that confab. But under the Labor Relations Act it is necessary for the employer to bargain with his employes, as a body. It was the principle of majority rule, applied to business, as to legislation.

Child Labor Amendment

The speaker pointed out that the proposed Child Labor Amendment was declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court by a 5-to-4 decision. He stated that amongst the dissenting justices was Chief Justice Hughes, who maintained the right of Congress to enact this legislation. Under the 30-Hour Week Bill, a license would be necessary for all industry doing an interstate commerce business. This license would forbid child labor, and the yellow dog contract; protect the right of the workers to organize, and restrict the hours, as the title of the bill indicates.

Warns of Need of Organization

Declaring that when the employes of a plant or factory had balloted for a union of their own choosing, there was always the danger of boss propaganda and conflicting interests to beware of, the Congressman said.

"We cannot compel you to organize, but for God's sake, we advise you to do so! The right is there. Now go ahead and use it!"

After such a pointed warning, there should be no room left for discussion. It is "Organize" or go under! Congressman Connery and his supporters, like Senators Wagner, Black and others, have done nobly. Labor must act or lose the battle!

It will be greatly appreciated, if when making purchases from our advertisers, you will please mention The Labor News.

FLOOD CONDITIONS

(Continued from Page 1)

in the week transformed into a veritable rivulet, were already covered with several inches of water in many places. It was difficult going homeward to our hotel, but the driver did not seem to mind, and his passengers were not in the mood for "kicking", so to speak, after having witnessed the performance of Miss McDonald and Nelson Eddy, supported by a brilliant cast.

Travel Became Difficult

Working in Augusta on Tuesday morning was no pleasure, with conditions as they were, and made worse by the glaring violations of common decency on the part of many automobile drivers, who would drive through streets where water was collecting up to the curb, without any regard for pedestrians. More than once was it this writer's lot to be splashed with water. A book on etiquette on road manners should be given such drivers.

Well from Augusta your correspondent deemed it safer to travel by rail, not because drivers of busses in Maine are careless, but on account of road conditions which, strange to say, were later in the week reversed when rail service on many lines was abandoned and travel by bus more quickly resumed.

Waterville, which later in the week suffered losses estimated at a million dollars, when rain caused floods in the downtown section, was not as badly hit by the downpour as Augusta on last Tuesday, but the river banks were more ominous.

Flying Yankee Ride Thrilling

Leaving Waterville on Tuesday for Bangor, it was the writer's first experience to ride on the Flying Yankee, that new all-steel streamlined marvel of the 20th Century railroad progress. What a thrill to be seated in a comfortable seat in the smoker, which was as restful as any chair in one's own home, and to see the scenic beauty that greets the eye from Waterville to Bangor, while traveling at more than 75 miles an hour. The writer was impressed by the already barren stretches of field and farm lands in this section and the fact that once in Bangor there was less snow than in the previous places visited.

At this writing, Bangor is in the limelight in the news of floods coming from all parts of the country because of the threat of damage as ice jams above the city dam.

It was your correspondent's good fortune to reach Portland on Wednesday night for the remainder of the week as otherwise the rising waters of lakes and rivers en route would have seriously impaired the success of this trip from the standpoint of news and business as well.

Flood Control Work Praised

All the agencies of relief were brought into play during those few days of flooded conditions in many parts of the State. The Red Cross demonstrated again that it is always ready for such emergencies. The rank and file of people also showed their true patriotism and brotherly love by doing everything possible to bring succor to those distressed.

At the State House, the various departments, at the command of Governor Brann, have thrown all their resources together to cooperate with cities and towns affected by floods, and to start work immediately in repairing damage to highways, bridges and other public property repaired.

This flood, which has caused millions of dollars in losses to lumber interests, and to textile, shoe and other manufacturing plants on the banks of rising rivers and lakes, as well as to mercantile establishments and homes affected by floods will go down in history as the worst that Maine has ever experienced.

The only solace comes from the fact that to date only a few deaths have been attributed to the flood. Were it not for the quick work of all groups in affected areas, the loss of lives might have reached appalling figures.

After the Storm—

With Easter near at hand, as well as the Spring season, Maine's people will soon be turning their attention from the flood to preparations for one of the biggest vacation tourist seasons in the State's history. The unsettled European condition coupled with the greater desire on the part of more people throughout the nation to see Maine, as the result of the publicity given the State last year in magazines and newspapers throughout the United States, are two factors that argue well for an increased summer business this year.

Building mechanics and laborers will be more generally employed this season and well into the Summer in reconstructing and building new bridges, buildings of all types, and highways damaged by the floods.

Textile business in Maine is quiet just now, but from one leading authority your correspondent learned that an upward trend is soon to be expected.

All in all, this was the most eventful trip ever taken through the State by your correspondent, who was afforded an opportunity to witness scenes that will remain as the most exciting ever experienced.

WAGNER—CONNERY ACT

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meet the burden of proof as to the unconstitutionality of the Act as a whole. Therefore, the Act must be deemed constitutional for purposes of the decision in the cases before the court, and within the power of Congress under the commerce clause of the Constitution.

3. Questions of the constitutionality of the Act could arise only after a full hearing in an action involving a justiciable controversy affecting private rights. The Circuit Court of Appeals had exclusive jurisdiction to pass upon questions in which private rights are involved after the Labor Relations Board issued an order determining questions involved in the hearings.

"The Labor Relations Act insofar as it sets up administrative machinery," the court said, "is substantially the same as the Federal Trade Commission Act."

In his decision Judge Rippey declared "the right of labor to deal on an equal footing with its employer has long been recognized in the courts," adding: "Congress in the Railway Labor Act of 1926 recognized that right, and it has been held that recognition and enforcement of that right is within the legislative power."

NEW YORK STATE RECEIVES FEDERAL CHECK FOR NEARLY $182,000,000 AS SHARE TO ADMINISTER SECURITY LAW

A United States Treasury check for $181,[illegible] was sent March 12th to Mark Graves, Commissioner of Insurance and Taxation of the State of New York, representing the Social Security Board's grant to that State for the cost of administering New York State's unemployment compensation law from February 12, 1936, the day after the President signed the deficiency bill containing the first appropriation for the Social Security Board, until March 31, 1936.

New York being the largest industrial State in the Union, this is the largest sum that the Social Security Board will certify for administration purposes for this period. Some 3,000,000 workers are scheduled to receive unemployment benefits under the New York law.

The New York law has been approved by the Social Security Board under both Titles III and IX of the Social Security Act. By virtue of this approval New York State profits in two ways. Employers in this State may get a credit up to 90% against the Federal excise tax, levied under Title IX of the Social Security Act, for their contributions to the state unemployment fund. That is, a New York employer with a taxable payroll of $100,000 for the year 1936, instead of sending the Federal Government a check for $1000 next year to cover the 1% Federal tax, will be able to take a credit up to a maximum of 90% on that sum against the Federal tax. The balance goes directly to New York State as his contribution to the New York State unemployment compensation fund.

Secondly, New York State will benefit through participation in Federal grants for the administering of approved unemployment compensation laws. The entire costs of the administration of unemployment compensation in such State with a law approved by the Board under Title III of the Social Security Act will be paid by the Federal Government.

A State making application for a grant must satisfy the Social Security Board that its provisions for the administration of the law are such as to insure to every qualified worker in the state full benefits as provided in the law. Specified in Title III of the Social Security Act are certain requirements which the state must meet with respect to these provisions. They include standards of administration; payment of unemployment compensation through public employment offices, opportunity for individuals to have a fair hearing in disputed cases, reports to the Social Security Board when requested, and the prompt deposit of state unemployment compensation funds in the Unemployment Trust Fund of the United States Treasury.

CONSTITUTIONALITY OF

(Continued from Page 1)

which seriously obstruct interstate commerce and therefore constitutionally come under the control of Congress.

From the abundance of facts in its possession the Government declared it seemed proper to conclude "that in this industry the scale of pay and the hours of work and refusal to recognize the right of collective bargaining have direct, immediate and substantial effect upon interstate commerce to a degree not found in industry generally."

Favors Rule by Orderly Processes

In closing the argument for the Government Assistant Attorney General John Dickinson said the legislation included in the Guffey Bill "is of an experimental nature."

"Much may turn on the decision and the opinion of the court," he continued. "The issues are much more tremendous than those of the present [illegible]

"The issue of Federal power is [illegible] whether there lurk interstices and crevices in the Constitution through which required Federal power may have sifted away.

"We think the Fathers in setting up the Constitution were wise enough to see that the perpetuation of the kind of government they desired depended on a Constitution strong enough to meet every crisis as it arose not by military power but by orderly processes of government.

"The time may come, if the Union is to be preserved and the Federal Government to be competent to deal with subversive forces, it may have to use other powers which we, as American citizens, would not want to be used.

"We believe and submit that the Government must be able to meet our national destiny by control over commerce. In our economic life we must have one rule and one law."

HEARING ON INJUNCTION

(Continued from Page 1)

We have been called to court and conferences with the Chief of Police and other officials several times with the outcome in our favor. We also have contacted personally and by communication all labor and fraternal organizations in the city, and secured their cooperation for this battle in all its phases, and we wish to express our sincerest thanks for your wonderful support given to us in this case.

Theatrical Unions to Conduct Midnight Show on Sunday, April 19

A midnight show will be run Sunday, April 19th at the Strand Theatre under the auspices of Moving Picture Operators Local 458 and Stage Employees Local 114. It was to be held during the day, but due to the ban on Sunday shows brought on by the activities of the Portland Federation of Churches, etc., the Local decided to cooperate with the Police Department and other officials rather than [illegible] them in an embarrassing position.

The tickets will be ready in a few days and will be sent to all labor organizations. The show will consist of pictures and vaudeville, the price of admission is within reach of everyone; and you can help a good cause and also be amused while doing it.

The Strand should be packed to the doors for that show.

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Atty. Mahoney Candidate for Representative

Leo J. Mahoney, legal advisor for both Locals 114 and 458, has decided to be a candidate for Representative in the Legislature on the Republican ticket. If Labor wants a friend, then a word to the wise is sufficient. Atty. Mahoney is a young man, well versed on labor laws and a friend of Labor.

GRATIFYING RESULTS

(Continued from Page 1)

managing director, Wholesale Dry Goods Institute of New York, for management, and William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, for labor.

John G. Paine, of New York, Council joint chairman for management, declared that in presenting the committee reports, the management group considered that the work of the Council has just begun and that its continuance was vitally necessary to work out a program to speed re-employment and prevent a return of industry ills caused by the depression.

THOUGH UNEMPLOYMENT

(Continued from Page 1)

Continued lengthening of hours and lowering of wages can but act to further throw the economic machine out of balance. A wage increase is one certain means to affect a nearer balance between production and consuming power. But industry ignores that patent fact.

TRADE UNION WOMEN'S AUXILIARIES TO CONSIDER PLAN FOR ORGANIZING NATIONAL BODY AT CAPITAL CONFERENCE

Formation of a national federation of women's auxiliaries of labor unions will be considered at a conference of representatives of women's auxiliaries of national and international unions, to be held in the Hamilton Hotel, Washington, D. C., on April 10 and 11.

Organization of women's buying power in behalf of union label goods and services is the object of the proposed national body.

Call for the conference has been issued by the executive board of the Union Label Trades Department, American Federation of Labor, under authority of a resolution adopted at the last convention of the department, held in Atlantic City. Matthew Woll, president of the department, will preside. William Green, president of the A. F. of L., and other representative labor men and women will address the conference.

In sending out the call for meeting, I. M. Ornburn, secretary-treasurer of the Union Label Trades Department, said:

"It is the desire of the executive board of the Union Label Trades Department that the national and international presidents issue the call to their respective women's auxiliaries. If the response is sufficient, and we believe it will be because of the interest already shown, the conference will be held.

"There is an urgent need of coordination among the women's auxiliaries, affiliated with labor unions, in the United States and Canada. The failure of these separate unions to co-operate in a national federation causes a great economic loss to the national and international unions in collective bargaining, collective buying and the united action which the American Federation itself affords to the labor unions affiliated with it.

"From a recent survey made by our department we find that there are approximately two million women organized in auxiliaries. It is a recognized fact that the ladies spend 85 per cent of the family budget. Our one object in attempting to form an American Federation of Women's Auxiliaries is for the purpose of organizing the buying power of the women of our country."

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